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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Undoubtedly the political event of the week is Mr. Chamberlain's very important speech to the Birmingham Liberal Unionist Association on Thursday last. As Mr. Chamberlain gets older, he gets wiser, and we do not think that it would be using inflated language, if we said, greater. We doubt, if ten years ago he would have been able in such peculiarly delicate and particularly irritating circumstances to make a speech so correct in tone and so convincing in effect. It did not, it is true, convince all his hearers, but unreasonable persons are not touched by wisdom. Mr. Chamberlain declares uncompromisingly that the Government will in no event withdraw the Education Bill and that by it they will stand or fall. This is what we expected and is entirely satisfactory. He admits that the general secularisation of elementary schools is impossible, though that, we note with real regret, is still his own ideal. The Government are determined to secure public control of secular elementary education, Mr. Chamberlain calls it "popular control", but the denominational element is not to be absolutely crushed out. With those who desire such a result the Government can make no terms. But it is not clear that any denominational element will ultimately be insisted upon beyond the control of religious education and the appointment of the head teacher. Mr. Chamberlain declares that he is in favour of allowing denominational religious teaching in all elementary schools, at the parents' desire, which would mean the repeal of the Cowper-Temple clause. This is perhaps the most important pronouncement in his speech.

Mr. Chamberlain's audience then proceeded to vote; deciding in favour of popular control of secular education, saving religious instruction in accordance with the views of the founder; in favour of the managers retaining the appointment of the head teacher; in favour of the County Council appointing the majority of the education committee from within its own body;

and in favour of popular election of the majority of the managing committee of voluntary schools in respect of secular education. They decided against the repeal of the Cowper-Temple clause. The outcome will probably be that the Government will carry the Bill in its present form. If they give way to these expressions of an antiquated Liberalism, they will reduce denominational schools to a mere name, and Churchmen would have to consider the policy of relinquishing them and devoting their whole attention to religious education in State schools. But it would be absurd in the extreme to give much weight to the views of a group of obscure and apparently somewhat ignorant persons who have acquired an unwarranted importance, seeing that the Liberal Unionists unaided could not carry a single division of Birmingham.

Other contributions this week to the education hubbub have been Cardinal Vaughan's letter to the Irish members, the nonconformist no-rate manifesto, and Lord Hugh Cecil's speech in Edinburgh. Cardinal Vaughan is perfectly entitled to claim the support of the Irish members for a Bill which gives something like justice to Roman Catholic, as to all other denominational schools. He is not over-stating the case in saying that if the nonconformists succeeded in impressing their views on this Bill, definite Christian teaching would finally disappear from English elementary schools. In fact the nonconformists are in reality working for sheer secularism, but only a few of them (who may be commended the more for their candour) have the courage to say so. We have very little misgiving as to the Irish members' attitude in the matter. They have never shown inclination to tamper with their religion. They are not likely to show the more now that those who want them to do so have thrown over Home Rule. If the Liberals hope to seduce the Irish parliamentary party from its support of Christian education, they should look more closely after their nonconformist brethren, who have been indulging of late in anything but pacific comment on the Irish members. Nor are some of the Labour gentlemen more pleasant in theirs. Altogether the Government have not much to fear from this machine-made agitation against their Education Bill.

There is almost pathos in the misfortune which divides Liberal nonconformists from Irish Nationalists



at the very moment when they are rapidly assimilating in methods. The no-rate manifesto, which the "Free Churches" have lately issued, reminds one of nothing so much as sundry no-rent announcements promulgated from time to time by the Land League and the National League. But the Irish was the more respectable illegality of the two; for, whatever the case may be now, the people were unquestionably over-rented in the past. Illegal roads to a measure of justice should never be taken; but it is a much more contemptible thing to resort to them as a means of shirking your fair share in a common burden. But the nonconformists know little of the English people, if they imagine that they will be allowed to indulge in a profitable martyrdom at the cost of the rest of the community, who will have to make up the shortcomings in the education rate as well as pay for the irreconcilables' keep in gaol. But nonconformists are not fools. These manifestoes are capital matter for a political campaign: and that is all they are. Very likely a few lunatics will assault the rate collector; but the rest will quietly pay and sensibly wait the opportunity, which politics may safely be trusted to give them, to pay off the score, as they regard it, or pretend to do.

Sir William Harcourt is generally entertaining on the platform, but his address on the Education Bill to his Monmouthshire constituents on Wednesday last was very dull. The enormous falsity of his rotund assertion that the Government had "made national education a monopoly of the Established Church" might once have been enlivening, but the largest lie becomes a platitude if repeated often enough. It is the same with his panegyric on school-boards, their funeral oration we may happily describe it, nothing could be more ludicrous than the statement that "school-boards are elected by men caring for education", and that their members were men "whose single object and whose single occupation was attention to education". Sir William Harcourt has always been a magnificent cynic: we can imagine the relish with which he propounded this immense generalisation, having in mind, and as it were before his eyes, at the time certain worthy specimens of school-board celebrity he had known. Perhaps he was thinking of Mr. John Lobb, who in his time has been the ornament of both sides of the London School Board.

In foreign affairs the Franco-Siamese treaty is the leading topic. The Siamese Government has been for some time conducting negotiations with Great Britain and with France on the many subjects of dispute which have prevented Siam from putting the country in order. On Tuesday M. Delcassé was able to announce that the agreement with France was concluded. Chantabun and the little strip along the right bank of the Mekong are to be restored to Siam. In return considerable concessions of land have been granted to France. The concessions contain the Cambodian province of Melouprey and the Laos province of Bassac, together rather more than 25,000 square kilometres. But it is the less concrete concessions that are of the greater importance. France is not to enjoy preference over other nations in the ports, canals or railways of the Mekong valley; but as to the construction of ports, canals or railways the Siamese Government—and surely no international agreement was ever more vague—promises to "place itself in accord with the French Government in the event of its not being possible for such works to be carried on by a Siamese staff and with Siamese capital". The phrase gives an unhappy liberty of interpretation and it is significant that the French press already talks of France's new "sphere of influence", a phrase not altogether of good omen. If the new treaty does nothing else, it proves the superfluous badness of the agreement of 1893.

The death of Liu-kun-yi, the Viceroy at Nankin, is to be regretted by everyone who wishes for the stability of China. At the time of the Boxer rebellion he proved himself one of the few statesmen in China who understood the West as well as the East. It is claimed for

him by the Japanese papers that he saved his country. He was certainly one of the few prominent men in whom foreigners put confidence; and the Chinese Government have recognised his greatness by the bestowal on him of the highest posthumous honours. Temples are ordered to be built to him in all provinces where he rendered official service. Greatly as this official exaltation of the dead is regarded in China, where it carries all the sanction of religion, the service he rendered in 1900, of which this is the recognition, is likely to have more permanence than the temples. On the day that the edict was issued, the part of Manchuria south of the Liao River was restored to China in accordance with the agreement, and the section of the Kinchan New-chwang railway was put under Chinese control. May this be taken as an earnest of the restoration of New-chwang itself?

Like much that we have heard about the Boers, and from them, the rumour of their conference with the German Emperor was due principally to suggestion. No conference had been settled, though it had been discussed; and if the three Generals even now are waiting to be introduced to the Emperor in the orthodox manner under the British Ambassador, there is no reason why they should not have an amicable conversation with the Emperor. Whether they would get or give any good is another question. But the Transvaal is of more importance than the Boers in Europe. The new Transvaal Customs Tariff just issued, excellent in itself, unhappily proves the impossibility of holding a general customs conference of the South African colonies. The Cape Colony Government again stands in the way of imperial development, but happily its pre-eminent power to do harm is being rapidly checked by the development of new harbours and railways. This week the new section of the Beira-Bulawayo has been completed, an important change in the dependence of the northern colonies on the Cape. The chief changes in the tariff are designed to reduce the cost of living and to encourage the development of the mining and agricultural industries. With this object public and military stores, and machinery, building materials, metals and agricultural implements are put on the free list and duties on all foodstuffs reduced. The surrender of revenue is a wise sacrifice and the increased duties on spirits, which are designed to make good part of the deficit, may have a salutary effect on the morality as well as the exchequer of the colony. In the absence of a Customs Union the revision is satisfactory and popular; but it is only a beginning.

Sir Gordon Sprigg has been defeated in the House of Assembly by two votes. The Bill in question was a wholly unimportant one, but as a timid clinger to office the defeat has no doubt frightened the Premier; and the division is evidence of the absurd anomaly of the position. This local irrigation scheme was vetoed on the motion of Mr. Merriman; and Sir Gordon Sprigg has discovered that to depend on the votes of your political enemies is to offer opportunity for defeat. The Bond is willing to vote for "the little Minister" when it furthers its own end; but its own end is not identical with the welfare of the country, and it is perhaps significant that his ministry should be beaten on so necessary a factor in the development of the country as irrigation. The Bond is not the less culpable because some loyalists also voted against the Bill, with the idea of giving a fall to the man whom they begin to regard as traitor, at any rate, to party. It is perhaps foolish policy. Sir Gordon Sprigg is not likely to be shamed into an appeal to the country. It is on the organisation for the next election that the emphasis should be laid.

The Royal Commission on the war in South Africa held its first meeting on Wednesday, Lord Elgin being in the chair. There has seldom been a commission better selected individually and collectively for the special work; and perhaps there is no distinguished man in England who has kept himself so aloof from

party prejudices and from personal advertisement as Lord Elgin. Though no one has found fault with the constitution of the commission, objection has already been raised to their first decision. The meetings are to be private, and at the end of each a short official communication will be made to the press. However it is not apparent how the evidence would be improved by a running commentary in the papers, and there is no question of the prejudice of the commission. So far little has been done beyond the handing in of War Office papers and lists of witnesses. The next meeting will be held on 14 October when General Kitchener will be examined. He will start for India a few days later.

The report of the Remounts Committee was issued as a Parliamentary paper on Thursday. In general the department is commended for its improvement of the existing system. The system of having a reserve of registered horses is judged to have been a potential success and what failure there was is considered due to the peculiar conditions of South African warfare. The one point on which the committee speak strongly is the miserably inadequate office accommodation for the department and the difficulties of communication with the War Office. Except that the department should have shown more readiness to accept suggestions from outside—and the rejection of the offers made by our military attachés in Washington and Vienna was unpardonable—the purchase of horses abroad is regarded as satisfactory. The excessive prices of the Hungarian horses were due to an individual monopoly for which the department was not responsible.

No single case of individual fraud or negligence is considered to be substantiated. The only definite cases had reference to the Yeomanry Committee and it is the confusion between this body and the Remounts Department that has given occasion to the public feeling against Major-General Truman. Personally he is absolved from negligence but not from incapacity. There is no question that the five general officers have been kind, if not unduly kind. In general they have shown willingness to accept the doctrine that where integrity and hard work are found, intelligence does not much matter; as if the appointment of a fool were not liable at a crisis to be at least as damaging as the appointment of a knave. In particular they have glozed over the fact that the Remounts Department showed gross and damaging obstinacy in refusing to take outside advice and, in the question of the Hungarian horses, continued to deal with the men who extracted from the Yeomanry Committee—of whose business dealings more will be heard—a profit approaching to 50 per cent.

There is more meaning than usual in the orthodox phrasing of the circular which Mr. Balfour issued to the supporters of the Government. Parliament will re-assemble on Thursday and "business of the greatest importance will be entered upon at once". No one will deny the great importance of the Education Bill; and in carrying it the Government will have to meet for the first time something like a united opposition. It should do the Government good. There is much besides the Education Bill to give the session not only importance but length. It is still maintained that an attempt will be made to proceed seriously with the Irish Land Bill. But there is no sign that the Irish members will cease their opposition to it nor that Mr. Wyndham will carry it through, if they continue ungracious. Even if this is put aside, the Education Bill with the Water Bill and African affairs, to which a very considerable amount of time must be given up, will be enough to prolong the session practically to Christmas. A meeting of the Cabinet is called for to-day.

That was quite a notable speech Mr. Asquith made at Ladybank last Saturday. As a speaker he has many excellencies, but humour is seldom amongst them. So that the Ladybank oration should have a very good chance of going down to posterity, for it contained a passage of really unquestionable humour. With ab-

solute gravity Mr. Asquith charged the Ministry with "impenetrability to Liberal ideas". How remarkable that a Tory Government should be hard of access to Liberal notions! "Impenetrability: that's what I say": said Humpty Dumpty." The phrase (saving its grammar) was all the better for its susceptibility of a double acceptation. We think it quite possible that Mr. Asquith's Scottish Liberal audience took him entirely seriously and thought it a shocking enormity in a Tory Ministry that its ideas were not Liberal. With the same coup south of the Tweed Mr. Asquith may have laid the foundation of a reputation for humour. He might be wise not to make a second attempt.

The Church Congress, which opened at Northampton on Tuesday, has not excited much attention this year. That is so far in its favour, for in the present political condition of men's minds it would attract attention only by indulgence in polemics. There must have been some temptation to ride on the wave of the educational crisis, but we observe with much satisfaction, that it has been resisted. The address of the Bishop of Leicester, who acted as president in place of the Bishop of Peterborough, Dr. Carr-Glyn being still incapacitated by his accident, was of a very quiet character; it was more pastoral than critical. Canon Henson's paper on Reunion was an attractive literary effort, but it did not strike us as thorough. We do not know how he can persuade himself that all in this country who do not belong to the Roman Church are practically of one mind in their religion. The impossibility of arriving at undenominational religious teaching satisfactory to all non-Roman communions in England itself disproves Canon Henson's assumption. Professor W. E. Collins was on surer ground. On the whole we feel, as every Congress leaves us feeling, that it were better a biennial than an annual function, and perhaps better quadrennial than biennial.

We wish clergymen and churchwardens throughout the country would act upon the Bishop of Norwich's words at the Congress in favour of keeping the churches always open. First there is the question of worship, frequently stopped, it may be, by the closed door. That has often been dwelt upon. And then there is the question of education. It is appalling how little English people know or care about church architecture and antiquity. There are many, by no means Philistine by nature, who do not know Norman and Perpendicular apart, who have never given a moment's thought to the mystery and the beauty of the Early English arch. Whilst the present forbidding plan of locking the church door after service and taking away the key is persisted in, what chance is there of our people becoming a little educated in these matters? Often to find out where the key is and gain admission means a waste of time precious to the wayfarer.

The colliery districts of France and Pennsylvania are rapidly being turned into military encampments in consequence of the strikes. At the critical moment in the American strike, which has lasted five months, when all attempts at negotiation have failed a general strike of all the French colliers seems to be taking place, and already forty-eight thousand men have ceased work. President Roosevelt's efforts to bring about a conference have been defeated and the men, admitting that he has done what he could, refuse to respond to his appeal to end the strike, throwing the blame on the coal operators and the managers of the coal-carrying railroads for refusing to accept arbitration. There has already been much suffering amongst the poor and coal is at famine prices. Large orders have been sent to this country and we shall feel the effects on our own rates. Some satisfaction is afforded in these circumstances by the thought of the coal duty. There seems an epidemic of strikes. In New Orleans there is a strike of employés on the city street railways, and there have been riotings and shootings. Geneva has also a similar strike and infantry, cavalry and artillery are held in readiness in anticipation of disorder. Perhaps the people who trace the ruin of British trade to our strikes may remember these facts in their future tirades on the subject.

The many visitors to the Bodleian tercentenary were received by the Vice-Chancellor on Wednesday and the Convocation at which degrees were conferred on fifteen men of letters or science from many countries was held in the Sheldonian on Thursday. The speeches were reserved for a reception in Christ Church in the evening. One may hope that the speech of Mr. Nicholson, the librarian, will not be forgotten. He spoke of "the mountains of arrears", and it is a fact of which we may feel some shame that the Bodleian has been starved for years, and if much more support has been promised, little has been given. When Sir Thomas Bodley first went round begging books he was promised unnamed presents from the Royal library; but King James, who went out of his way to say pretty things, saw to it that no advantage was taken of the offer.

We believe there is living at the present time a retired journalist and editor who claims to have been present at a Cabinet meeting by permission or desire of Lord John Russell, then Prime Minister. But to judge by the positive statements in some newspapers as to what the Government have decided to do in regard to Siam, one might suppose that the Prime Minister was in the habit of summoning quite a posse of reporters to the deliberations of his innermost Cabinet of all. It is not likely at any rate—presuming the present Prime Minister's way of regarding the outer, the Keltic fringe so to speak, of his Cabinets to be at all like his predecessor's—that these well-informed papers have learnt the Foreign Office policy through the blabbing of the satellites, because the satellites probably have nothing to blab. You are not likely to tell your most secret secrets to those you do not know by sight. "Tell me"—Lord Salisbury is credibly reported to have said to one of his whips on a certain occasion when the two were accosted by their own President of the Local Government Board—"who is that nice fresh-looking young man?"

Business in Stock Markets has not been on a large scale this week, but the tone in most sections was quietly firm. Tenders for £2,000,000 Local Loans Three per Cent. Stock were opened on Wednesday at the Bank of England, and the issue was most favourably received. The Japanese Five per Cent. Loan of 50,000,000 yen also met with success, having been subscribed for, it is believed, from two and a half to three times over. Arrangements have been made for the inscribing of this stock at the Bank of England. At the commencement of the week there was some selling of Consols, principally from Paris where the bull position is said to be large, but an improvement subsequently took place on purchases by option dealers, and this security, together with other high-class investment stocks, also received a stimulus from the liberal support accorded to the Local Loans issue.

Home Railway traffics were highly encouraging as a whole, but with the exception of Brighton "A", which improved on bear covering, the market remains dull. In spite of the failure of the coal strike negotiations American Rails were by no means weak, and yesterday they developed a firm tone on the prospect of a good New York Bank return, and the hope of an early ending of the strike. The news from Pretoria, announcing the provisional revision of the Transvaal Customs Tariff, tended to harden South African shares, but there is still a lack of business in this section. West Africans have displayed some little activity, features being the firmness of Ashanti Goldfields and Sansus, on the declaration by the latter company of the first dividend of 1s. per share. The directors of the Rio Tinto Company have declared, out of the estimated profits for the year 1902, a half-year's dividend of 2s. 6d. per share, less income-tax, on the Preference shares, and an interim dividend of 22s. 6d. per share, free of income-tax, on the Ordinary shares, both payable on 1 November next. The distribution was in accordance with general expectations, and practically had no effect upon the price of the shares. At this time last year the dividend on the Ordinary shares was 35s. Consols 93½. Bank rate 4 per cent. (2 October).

THE SHRINKAGE OF SIAM.

THE strongest evidence of our good relations with France is to be found in the reception given in this country to the Franco-Siamese Treaty. The only discordant note comes from French opposition journals. One ingenuous writer even goes so far as to state that the "hound Delcassé" has as usual fallen a willing victim to the wiles of our own perfidious diplomacy. This kind of stuff is of course not penned seriously, but it is curious to find our own newspapers congratulating themselves on what they are pleased to consider the "settlement" of a thorny question in which we might at any time have become involved while the more reputable organs among the French Press plume themselves on the "moderation" of French demands and point out that the acquisition by France of a slice of territory 25,000 square kilometres in extent, to which she had not a shadow of a claim either by justice or treaty, is a proof of her "goodwill" to Siam. Why we should rejoice in this further encroachment on the already reduced area of that country it is difficult to understand. Why we should not interfere is not so hard to conjecture, though it is ridiculous to pretend that the true reasons influencing our Foreign Office in these circumstances are common property. The actual arrangements between France and her ally as to Siamese affairs are not matters of common knowledge but our representatives have been clearly swayed by considerations of general policy in refraining from action in a sphere where our interests undoubtedly are largely concerned, though not to the extent of risking serious friction perhaps with more than one Power. While we recognise the presence of many weighty reasons for inaction we cannot see why we should be pleased that France has appropriated two more provinces of Siam and established herself by treaty on the west bank of the Mekong. The irony of the whole situation can hardly be present to the minds of those who are so eager that we should rejoice over the treaty. By the arrangement of 1893 Siam undertook certain payments and acceded to certain demands of France as a penalty for certain outrages alleged to have been committed on French subjects, and for the attack on French gunboats by the forts at Paknam. Until those conditions were fulfilled French troops were to remain at Chantabun and Siamese troops were not to occupy any posts within a zone of twenty-five kilometres from the west bank of the Mekong. The Siamese long ago carried out their part of the agreement but the French have never evacuated Chantabun nor have Siamese troops been allowed to establish themselves within the twenty-five kilometre zone. By the treaty just concluded France receives a large slice of fertile territory for consenting to perform her part of a contract which the other contracting party long ago faithfully carried out. It requires an exuberance of fancy with which we cannot credit our Foreign Minister to believe that such an arrangement is a matter for congratulation, unless it was seriously anticipated that France was intending to appropriate a great deal more, for French maps have included Chantabun in French territory with about as much right as a Pan-German atlas includes both Amsterdam and Trieste in a Pan-German realm.

To say that we decline to join in a forced chorus of unreal jubilation is a very different thing from inciting our Foreign Office to remonstrate with France on the ground of perfidy or oppression. We ourselves have had too long an experience of the irritating vicinity of semi-civilised States to blame other countries because they may believe themselves irresistibly forced onwards in what appears to everyone but the advancing Power to be a career of aggression. The charge has been flung at us so often that we should find little satisfaction in pulling it up out of the mire of newspaper controversy to throw it back; but a study of French methods in Siam irresistibly makes us wonder whether since the conclusion of the Dual Alliance the Western partner has not been taking a lesson from the time-honoured methods of Russian advance in Asia. A good deal indeed took place in 1893 which the French Government did not approve but which was the work of fire-eating officers and ambitious officials on the spot. But,

as the Russian Government has habitually done, it profited by their action as far as possible and withdrew at last from some extreme demands to enforce which might possibly have endangered peace with ourselves. Postponement is not of necessity abandonment, as may be seen from the fact that a portion of the province of Angkor saved by British remonstrances in 1893 has now become French.

The provision in the new treaty with regard to French subjects in Siam may not be of material importance but the French Legation has been employed for years in manufacturing French subjects by registration and endless grounds of dispute with Oriental countries can always be found in the status of natives enrolled as subjects of a foreign Power. This clause alone will be useful enough when the time arrives to make use of it. But we only allude to this matter to indicate a possibility of the future.

We have no desire to attribute any Machiavellian projects to the Quai d'Orsay, the sagacity and moderation of whose policy are greatly responsible for the excellent relations at present existing between France and ourselves, relations indeed far more satisfactory than have prevailed for many years, but it is strange to note the readiness with which our press accepts assertions that have no foundation in fact. It is stated again and again that by the Convention of 1896 between France and England there was an official recognition of respective spheres of influence in the provinces of Siam. As a matter of fact there was nothing of the kind. By that Convention both Powers undertook to respect the integrity of the Menam basin, which, for all purposes of trade and commerce, is by far the most important portion of Siam. Though the Cambodian province and the Korat plateau on one side and the Malay Peninsula on the other were excepted from the agreement, Lord Salisbury expressly stated that they remained as much a part of Siam as ever, and no doubt was cast on the absolute right of Siam over them. We have never actually or implicitly accepted any part of Siam as within any "sphere of influence". But it is true that the Menam valley is of vital importance to our trade while the Mekong is not. To accept the statements of the French press or even of "eminent diplomatists" that any agreement was made as to "spheres of influence" is to ignore the position always taken up by our diplomacy. It is equally misleading to state that this agreement is "final". Were it in the least likely to be so we should welcome it. But it is evident that the Menam not the Mekong is the goal of French desires. She has always longed for the possession of the stream that bore the trade of Southern China. She used to believe that the Mekong was that stream. She now knows that it is not and the Menam is.

Hitherto we have been prolific of good advice to Siam but our policy has been to refrain from any more active assistance. That we have ever incited her to resist French demands is of course the wildest fiction. We may, however, justly claim that she should now enjoy an opportunity of working out her own salvation. Progress in an Oriental community must of necessity be slow but evidence is not wanting that real progress has been made of late years. What has been done has of course been done under the direction of European officials but the shrinkage of Siam may well be arrested for awhile for more reasons than one. Siam lies between England France and China, much as Afghanistan lies between England and Russia. Both these States are maintained because it is better for one or both of their great neighbours that something should stand "betwixt the incensed points of mighty opposites". Siam is in a widely different position from Afghanistan because it is naturally a very rich country with vast commercial possibilities. At present our trade interests there vastly exceed those of France and every other country and are likely to continue to do so, though Germany by the recent transfer of two lines of steamers to the North German Lloyd Company now absorbs two-thirds of the carrying trade. Our business therefore is not to look upon every advance of our rivals as inevitable but to do what we can to help the rulers of Siam to regenerate that State from within and to avert as long

as possible any attempt at partition. We cannot afford to forget the rapid growth of German interests in Bangkok, but at present German rights of interference in that region are entirely confined to matters of commerce. It will be better for all concerned that no other than France and ourselves should actively influence the political destinies of Siam. Should the Court of Bangkok become the scene of intrigues such as are always at work in Korea and Afghanistan, the partition which we contemplate with the gravest misgiving would be inevitable.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE TRANSVAAL MINES.

THAT there is some uneasiness in certain quarters as to Mr. Chamberlain's intentions with regard to taxing the mining industry in the Transvaal is plain enough. The prices of South African mining shares are evidence of this feeling, for they are still far below what they were in the régime of Mr. Kruger, and considerably below what they were at the beginning of the year, when the war was in full swing. The shortage of native labour accounts for some of this market depreciation, but not for much, as it is perfectly well known that the natives are steadily coming in, that the mines have now half the supply they had before the war, that arrangements have been made for a further supply from Nyassaland, and that whether in three or six months' time this demand will be satisfied. No: it is not the labour question: it is the fear of future taxation that makes the leading houses hesitate. It really looks as if the Kaffir magnates were more afraid of Mr. Chamberlain than of Mr. Kruger. We think that these fears are groundless, and that they might be cured by the simple process of remembering or reading what Mr. Chamberlain has stated from his place in Parliament. Mr. Chamberlain has said that he has no present intention of increasing, directly or indirectly, the 10 per cent. tax on existing mines. That is clear enough. With regard to undeveloped and undiscovered mines Mr. Chamberlain has intimated that the Government intend to participate to some extent in the profits of the promoter and presumably of the vendor. This can only be done by some alteration of the gold-mining law in South Africa, probably in the direction of the law in Rhodesia by which the Chartered Company takes a third of the shares of every company floated, only of course the Government could not take scrip, but must have money. Whether by the word "Government" Mr. Chamberlain meant the Imperial or the Colonial Government, or both, and if the latter, in what proportions the Metropolis and the Colony are to participate in the future mineral wealth of our new possession, was not made clear, probably because the Colonial Secretary had not made up his mind or obtained the assent of the Cabinet to any scheme. It is well known that Mr. Chamberlain will during the autumn session introduce a Bill for the guaranteeing by the British Imperial Government of a Transvaal loan of £30,000,000 for the purposes of redeeming the valid obligations of the late Transvaal Republic, and for reproductive expenditure on public works, such as railways and irrigation. Mr. Chamberlain is too shrewd a man of business not to know that uncertainty as to its fiscal future is injurious and unfair to the mining industry: and it may therefore be assumed that he will take the opportunity afforded by the loan Bill of explaining the policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to future taxation. We do not know how far Mr. Chamberlain will descend into details, but he has already disclaimed all sympathy with the foolish notion of making the capitalists bleed, not so much out of tenderness for them, as out of consideration for the shareholders, to whose shoulders the burden will ultimately be shifted. The capitalist is well able to take care of himself, or he would not be a capitalist. We need not regard him, for at the first sign of danger he takes wings of paper, and flies gaily away, leaving the investor or speculator to curse a life he cannot quit. But we want the capitalist, all the same: his money and brains are necessary for the future development of South Africa, whose business he happens to understand better than either Lord Milner or Mr. Chamberlain.

It is a pity that there is no way in which the big mining houses can lay their views about taxation before the Secretary of State. There is rather a strong prejudice against the Kafir magnates at present, owing to a prevalent belief that they produced a market slump to prevent Mr. Chamberlain from thinking that the war had increased the value of the mines, and perhaps anything which they said now would not carry weight. But unquestionably the opinions of the men who have spent the best part of their lives in developing the Transvaal mining industry would be valuable and informative. Of some of them we have been able to ascertain the views, and we gather that they do not in the least object to a fair taxation of the industry, but they think that the money so raised should be spent on the development of South Africa, and not be sent home as "tribute" to Great Britain. From a business point of view there is much to be said for this argument. Of course it is perfectly fair that the Transvaal should contribute to the cost of a war, which would certainly never have taken place if gold had not been discovered on the Rand. The principle of contribution is just: but is it politic to insist upon it? Is it even worth while? The payment of the £50,000,000 or £60,000,000 which it might be decided to fix as the Transvaal contribution would have to be spread over a great number of years: its collection could not even begin for the next four or five years. As a relief to the British taxpayer this tribute would be a fleabite. But though it would be nothing to Great Britain, it would be a great deal to the Transvaal, if spent by a judicious government on the internal development of the colony. Take the question of irrigation, for example. With proper irrigation, such as suggested in Colonel Willcocks' report, South Africa will become a great grain-producing area, possibly even an exporting country. And it is most important not only that an agricultural interest should be created, as it is dangerous for a country to depend entirely upon mines, but that South Africa should become an exporter. The want of exports in bulk adds materially to the cost of living; the hundreds of ships bringing goods to South Africa return three-quarters empty, and the outgoing freight is correspondingly increased, and adds to the cost of living and production.

What improved trade means is shown by the following figures. The year 1870 is selected, as being previous to the yield of the diamond fields and to a more vigorous railway policy. The year 1898 is the last year before the war, and unaffected by same.

	1870.	Imports.	Exports.	Totals.
		£	£	£
Cape Colony ...	2,352,000	2,569,500	4,921,500	
Natal ...	429,500	382,700	812,200	
Total 1870	5,733,700
1898.				
Cape Colony ...	16,621,354	24,423,413	41,044,767	
Natal ...	5,323,216	1,246,000	6,569,216	
			47,613,983	
		Imports.		
		£		
Delagoa Bay—				
Transit traffic only ...	1,770,082			
Beira—				
Transit traffic only ...	926,402		2,696,484	
Total 1898	50,310,467

in 28 years an increase of nearly 900 per cent.

In 1901 the colony showed an increase of imports of £4,000,000, and Natal fully £4,500,000; total increase of imports £8,500,000, but on the figures of 1898 there is an external trade of over £50,000,000 for a white population of about 1,000,000, as against an external trade of £74,000,000 done by 4,500,000 inhabitants of Australasia. The Transvaal absorbs most of the imported goods passing through colonial ports, as, owing to the large capital invested, its development is most advanced, and every encouragement should be given for further inflow of capital and consequent increased

production, which to the greatest extent is paid for by the produce or manufactures of the Empire.

These are some of the objects to which the efforts of what will for some time to come be a paternal government should be directed. It looks as if South Africa would want every penny that it can raise for its own purposes. We know of course that a contribution to the cost of the war from the Transvaal is a good electioneering card. But Mr. Chamberlain has outgrown that kind of politics. He must and will consider the whole question together with Lord Milner in a broad and statesmanlike manner. It might moderate the demands of the extreme contributionists to reflect that by the irony of fate the Boer farmers will not pay a penny of the contribution, and that it will all come out of the pockets of British shareholders. However, should a contribution be decided upon, we trust that Mr. Chamberlain will put an end to uncertainty by being explicit. It might, we suggest, be possible to fix a minimum amount to be chargeable on the ordinary budget of the Transvaal, and to name a maximum sum to be drawn from prospective development, if and when conditions warrant it. And why should the colonies of Natal, Orange River, and the Cape not contribute their share?

THE CHURCH AMONG THE CORDWAINERS.

A SOUTH AMERICAN president is said to have observed that the want of interest taken in public affairs was deplorable. He had not been shot at for at least a fortnight. Forty-two annual congresses have proved—what once was questioned—the interest taken by members of the Church of England in her affairs. Would anyone question it if the Church Congress met but triennially, quinquennially, or not at all? It is true that evidence is thus given that there is one religious body which can assemble for some better purpose than to talk malevolent party politics. But might not the Church of England go further and show that there is one religious body which does not think it necessary to assemble for mere talk of any kind whatsoever? Such talk is no part of the corporate life of the Divine Society. The magnifying of their office by congresses and conferences has delayed by half a century the needed revival of synodical action in province and diocese. These vast talking assemblies belong really to a bygone era, and to the touching mid-Victorian faith in government by discussion which founded suburban parliaments and parish-debating halls. The august eloquence of S. Stephen's itself is now but idly skimmed unless freely punctuated with "laughter" and "much laughter". It is somewhat of an anachronism then that every October divines and laymen should occupy many columns which would otherwise be usefully filled with the sea-serpent or letters signed Mater-familias and Constant Reader. The speeches and papers which are reported in the daily press at all adequately are not those which exhibit the most thoughtfulness and originality, but those whose authors are familiar to the public and have said what everyone knew beforehand they would say. One can hardly imagine Newman or Maurice on a Church Congress platform. And it is quite impossible to discourse otherwise than superficially and onesidedly about such subjects as "Home Reunion", "the miracles and supernatural character of the Gospel", "Church Reform", or "the principles of Public Worship" in five minutes, in ten, or even in fifteen. Fancy S. Athanasius at Nicæa cut off in a sentence by the president's bell, or Plato in the garden under terror of the clepsydra. The need of the Church is not snippety discussion but learning. The clerus Anglicanus was once—the phrase however, *pace* Bishop Thicknesse, is much older than the great Caroline age—*stupor mundi*, and in recent times it has produced many great clerks. By the sanctified learning of her doctors, and not by the popular eloquence of platitudinous prelates and deans or the expansive sentiment and smart epigram which catch the applause of a closely packed audience, will the difficult controversies which distract the Church be elucidated. Truths

patiently thought out cannot be shouted at an unprepared crowd.

Church Congresses are defended as bringing together men of differing habits of thought, who rub off one another's angles and find good in opponents which they never suspected. But this is done round the fire or across the table or in the intimacy of a walk; not in listening to speeches and papers. Why, if Churchmen do not see enough of one another at home, should they not hold a congress at which there shall be *no* addresses? We believe it would be a great success. The addresses, after all, are far from representative. The committee mean to be fair, but their field of selection is practically confined to a certain small and hackneyed groove of leisured and quasi-professional congress speakers, who represent in many cases neither the thoughtful few nor the silent many. It is as though the London clergy of George I.'s time had spoken for the whole Church of England. The brisk, semi-latitudinarian element in the Church is always somewhat disproportionately prominent at these gatherings. Another defence made for Church congresses is that they excite religious interest and life in the locality where they are held. Northampton, whose later association with Mr. Bradlaugh and with Mr. Labouchere has somewhat obscured earlier memories of Becket and S. Anselm, of crusades and convocations, may be pardonably thought likely to find some novelty in ecclesiastical and spiritual ideals. But though a congress advertises the Church of England, stirs a little local interest in the matters discussed, and makes the features of Bishop X. and Lord Y. known to a few thousand more people, the Church can only stamp a permanent impression on a materialised public by reaching men's imaginations through some great claim of reverence and devotion. If they see a supernatural commission earnestly believed in and faithfully executed by a dozen parish priests working in their midst, this will draw and bind them to the Church more effectually than columns of utterances, whether unctuous or sincere, about love and comprehensiveness. When there is a row, this on the other hand, though interesting, does not tend to edification.

An example of unreality may be seen in Tuesday's discussion of Home Reunion. We are not concerned at this moment to enter upon questions of theological controversy. But if anything whatever is certain about the reunion of English Christians, it is that it cannot be brought about by advocating the recognition of Dissenting ordinations, an advocacy therefore which is mere waste of breath. It is not merely that the overwhelming preponderance of feeling among the clergy and "ecclesiastically minded laity" is resolutely against such a recognition, and that the Dissenting communities could only be brought in upon such a basis at one door by driving the entire "historic High Church party" out at the other, to form a new non-juring secession. Nor is the recognition of the "Free-Church" ministry out of the question simply because it would re-unite the Church of England to one section of British Christianity, that of "inorganic Protestantism", by rendering impossible her reunion with another section, that of the Duke of Norfolk's co-religionists, and, as Professor Collins pointed out in a really excellent paper, by cutting off the Ecclesia Anglicana, finally and for ever, from the entire fellowship of both Eastern and Western Christendom. But the difficulty lies in the essential conception of the Christian Society to which the Church of England, claiming to be a reformed branch of the historic Catholic body, is unquestionably pledged. Did the Founder of Christianity leave behind Him an unorganised discipleship, associated only by ties of a common faith and love, and free to evolve, under Divine but invisible guidance, its own organisation, its own ministry and laws? Or had the Pentecostal Church already received from Him its foundations and the impress of an essential constitution—not merely a form of government but an appointed channel of authority and of transmission of grace? The views are contrasted as the democratic, in which every institution proceeds from below from the providentially guided will of the plebs Christiana, and the apostolic, in which all grace and commission

are devolved from above, through a channel ordained by Christ Himself. Is the Church an aggregate of Christians, or are disciples "added to the Church"? Of these two views the latter was undoubtedly the universal belief of East and West for the first fifteen centuries, and the Church of England is deeply committed to it. But granted the idea of visible institutions "given" by Christ to a concrete society, granted an accredited apostolate, the necessary corollaries follow. The monarchical or presbyterian form of government is a secondary question. The main point is whether there ever was a time in the primitive Church when a settled stewardship of Divine mysteries was created (not elected, but ordained and commissioned) by the laity. Any other set of facts implies some kind of apostolical succession. As the self-styled "Free Churches" confessedly lack this successive transmission and derive their ministry originally from a mere popular mandate, an obstacle stands in the way of Home Reunion (to speak of no others) which cannot be removed by soft or by menacing phrases. It is the unwillingness to face the real issue which renders a debate like the one we speak of so unstatesmanlike, futile and mischievous. Dignitaries talk unrealities on the platform, and the inarticulate crowd beneath every now and then ejaculates Oh, Oh! This is the wrong way to make the Church of England respected by her adversaries, but it is of a piece with the Church Congress generally. Its members separate with the feeling that those who were reputed to be somewhat in conference added very little to their ideas, or to the practical solution of perplexing problems. They have spent several days in racing to and fro from meeting to meeting to hear this that or the other personage, and have brought away a number of confused impressions, but the difficulties of the Church remain where they were before.

The Church movement, like every other movement, is now, as the Bishop of Rochester said, on the ebb and not on the flow. Churchmen have not to regain ideals but to maintain them. The future of English Christianity depends on the power and courage of the Church of England to uphold firmly and charitably, with great reverence for antiquity and immense allowance for modern complications and heritages of confusion, her own especial ideal of a reformed Catholicism. She cannot, to conciliate Mr. Price Hughes, adopt a religious system which would have shut out an Augustine or an Alfred. But she can abstain from answering railing with railing, and while assimilating all that is good in outside communions, Orthodox, Roman or Protestant, defend her ideal with learning and exhibit it in the beauty of holiness. Compromise and the ignoring of deep differences of belief will never bring about reunion. The welcome to Northampton by the Baptist mayor was inevitable and well performed. But we are glad to see that the usual conventional deputation from the local sects was dropped. In present circumstances it could only have seemed an hypocrisy.

STRIKES AND TRADE UNIONS.

IN our own country we are fortunately free for the moment from any great conflict between capital and labour. The case of Lord Penrhyn and his quarrymen drags on, and is important for the principle involved, the representation of the men by union officials. For the present however that is given up, and the question is no further advanced than it was in 1897 when a certain mode of presentation of grievances between Lord Penrhyn and the men was agreed upon. In the present disputes an attempt has been made to revive the now defunct Quarry Committee which Lord Penrhyn refused to acknowledge in that year. This has been unsuccessful, and in the negotiations that were opened the men agreed to waive this point for the purpose of paving the way to a conference with Lord Penrhyn. Their assurances were not sufficiently definite for Lord Penrhyn; the conference has not taken place; matters have gone back to the state in which they were before 1897; and the strike continues. Some thousands of workmen are interested in the Penrhyn dispute, but it is on a very small scale com-

pared with the strikes in France and America. In the former country the long-threatened general miners' strike has been declared which for several years has been put off in reliance upon Government promises to introduce legislation embodying an eight hours day and a scheme of old-age pensions. The wisdom of the proceeding is open to very great doubt even from the miners' point of view. Over twelve departments all industry will be paralysed, and distress and financial ruin will follow as they have followed the strike in Pennsylvania which is also a general strike. Not only does the time come when the public determine that the struggle must be ended, and are prepared to support the employment of military force to prevent the violence which must inevitably accompany such strikes, but the workmen's grievances are likely to be huddled away in the hurry to get peace restored. It is inopportune too that the miners of France should be appealing to the miners of England and other countries at the same time that another even greater labour conflict is going on in America. If therefore the order for a general strike issued by the miners' headquarter staff in Paris should be obeyed, it is not improbable that there will be a similar fiasco to that which resulted from the general strikes attempted with Marseilles and Antwerp as their centres in recent years. Moreover there is this peculiar element in the French case—the strike is started for the attainment of what are general political and social and not particular industrial objects. More than miners are interested in a minimum rate of wages, an eight hours day and old-age pensions, and the strike is an extra-Parliamentary method of obtaining political ends which is not likely to be approved by other classes of citizens than miners. It seems as ill conceived as our nonconformists' threats to refuse payment of rates if Parliament does not agree to give them what they want. And general sympathy is not bestowed on actions of this kind.

In America the introduction of politics comes as an instrument of settlement and not of provocation to a strike. After over five months of struggle which had settled nothing, and during which there had been violence and bloodshed and immense pecuniary loss to all business interests as well as suffering to the poor, it was believed that the parties were on the point of ending their strife. But attempts at drawing near to each other seemed to re-arouse hostility, and rioting necessitated the employment of large military forces to protect property and life. In the midst of a presidential canvass the political embarrassment to the Republicans is very intelligible, and the strike has become an element in the party fight between Republicans and Democrats. The struggle is in the districts where the Republican party is strongest, and it is easy for the Democrats to represent the Government as being subservient to the interests of the capitalists against labour if no efforts are made by it to terminate the dispute. This accounts largely for the activity of President Roosevelt and the anxiety of his Cabinet to bring about a settlement. But the determination of the employers not to discuss terms with their men, which has been one of the originating causes of the strike, has also prevented an arrangement of the dispute. There is hardly anything in the relations of masters and men which has been more productive of industrial conflict than this. It is the cause of all the trouble at Penrhyn. Lord Penrhyn, while professing not to be fighting against the right of his men to combine, yet refuses to acknowledge the instrument of the Quarry Committee by which alone they can express their views. It is intended to be the body representative of all the various sectional interests both for receiving complaints of grievances and for formulating them to the employer in order to obtain redress. Undoubtedly it would be a unionist body and part of the general machinery of the union, and Lord Penrhyn regards it as being on the one hand oppressive to the men who are not unionists and on the other as interfering with the management of his works. This is what he makes of the general principle of representation as many other somewhat intelligent employers of labour have done. They profess willingness to hear the personal complaints of the men but will not tolerate that these men

should be supported by any organisation representing the whole body of trade opinion.

This is an extremely short-sighted policy, for experience has shown that where employers are willing to do justice to their workpeople they are aided and not hindered by the existence of a body of responsible men representing the trade. These employers adopt the popular error that strikes are the consequence of organisation, and they believe that all you have to do is to prevent the organisation and then make strikes illegal for all trade troubles to cease as by enchantment. But it would be much wiser to acknowledge and accept the fact that combinations of workmen are a permanent form of industrial life. It is impossible that employers can take up the position that trade questions are for their consideration alone. The men have their interests as well as the employers and, as they cannot be prevented from combining for asserting those interests, it is mere perverseness for employers to refuse to acknowledge the official organ by which they may be represented. The objection usually is that in the more recent development of trades unionism there has been an increasing tendency to interfere with the employer's management of his own business. That is conceivable and it may be probable, but if we are reasonable enough to accept the general principle that workmen have some interests of their own in the employer's business, the question is merely to what extent and in what direction shall the opinion of the workmen have weight. They cannot be altogether shut out and be interdicted from having opinions, and it is hopeless to think of preventing them from acting on them. If employers must necessarily take this position of modern workmen into account, it seems obviously to follow that both parties will benefit by each having a recognised authoritative means of communicating its opinions and desires to the other. Ignorance is the most dangerous condition in which two parties who may be assumed to wish to act fairly towards each other can find themselves. If, as would seem to be the case in America with the coal operators, there are employers who do not wish such relations to be established between themselves and their men; then we have nothing but the exercise of the brute force of strikes to expect; and when employers deliberately refuse a possible rational means of settlement, it is not the party who strikes but that which makes strikes the only possible resource on whom the blame must be placed. Except so far as relates to the perversity of employers in refusing to acknowledge representatives of unions, we believe that in all trade disputes it is so impossible for any but experts, after hearing all the circumstances, to decide on the merits, that we do not venture an opinion as to the strikes which are now threatening such disasters to the countries in which they are taking place. In the peculiar circumstances of the French strike, which are as much political as industrial, the settlement could hardly be left even in the hands of a State court charged with the function of decision between masters and men. But it is unfortunate that neither employers nor workmen in England and America have yet become sufficiently rational and civilised to see that purely industrial differences ought to be determined by a tribunal where each party meets the other on the equal and common ground of reason. Until then we shall have nothing but the brute forces of mighty opposites meeting, and the appalling collision of strikes with all their train of disaster.

THE BODLEIAN COMMEMORATION.

OXFORD is holding in this week high festival in a commemoration of an entirely novel kind. No library has hitherto claimed the recognition which that of Bodley's foundation is now receiving. There are in Europe older libraries, but none of them in its origin had an equally extended range or an equally open door. And even in point of age the Bodleian may be deemed to witness more nearly to five centuries of existence than to three: its grand central room is that which Duke Humphrey of Gloucester helped to build and largely to fill, and it was the survival of this room, empty and

timeworn, which roused the spirit of Thomas Bodley to accomplish the restoration of that storehouse of learning which Oxford had once possessed but in frenzy despoiled.

It was with a large and statesmanlike view of future possibilities that on 8 November, 1602, Bodley saw the re-inauguration of the old room for its original noble purpose (to which the wing of his own construction was added in 1610) after three years of unceasing preparation. Even then he contemplated further extensions, while some of his contemporaries looked with a smile upon what they regarded as the hobby of a man proud of an idea and of the wealth which enabled him to carry it out. But sanguine as he was, and assured of approval by all lovers of learning, he could hardly have anticipated what developments were in store for his treasure-house, or how it would become one of the chief attractions of Oxford to men of all countries alike. Yet some presage of this attractiveness appeared in its earliest days. Thomas James, his first librarian, tells in his preface to his "Treatise of the Corruption of Scripture" published in 1611 how students had already come from seven or eight foreign countries, and found thirty languages represented on the shelves. And still as years went on the influx of strangers continued and grew, until not half a century passed before the University took alarm at possible danger to MSS. from the foreign incursions, and sought, somewhat inhospitably, to restrain them. For much of the first hundred years of the library's existence the records of the books purchased, given, and bound, happily in large measure survive, with registers of admissions and of readers; more fortunate in this respect was the Bodleian than the sister library at Cambridge, where most of the earliest records have been lost. In the eighteenth century also much has been handed on to us by the indefatigable and loving care of old Tom Hearne, the uncompromising non-juror, whose name is dear to all antiquaries, who, after he had been deprived of his office as sub-librarian in 1716, always to the very year of his death, which was in 1735, entered in his diary at each half-year that his salary was due but unpaid. For well-nigh a hundred years after Hearne's departure the records were very imperfectly kept; it was the time of torpor and laxity, and the salaries were small, and the staff was like the salaries, and work naturally corresponded, and "how not to do it" seems to have been the aim successfully reached. Very little correspondence relating to the library during this period has been preserved, and very scanty memoranda, even as late as during a considerable part of Dr. Bandinel's headship; consequently of the inner life of the place few traces can be found. In 1780 a Welsh undergraduate, John Walters, of Jesus College, was sub-librarian, and he alone, amongst predecessors and immediate successors, appears to have been inspired with the charm of Bodley's shrine; in published verse he sang of it, and in prose he told how he had collected a mass of information about its past and present state which he proposed to print. But from Oxford he went back to Wales, and there an early death stayed the fulfilment of his purpose. Should his collections be still anywhere existent they may, if some day brought to light, be found to give much illustration to a period about which practically little is known.

It may, however, well be a matter for rejoicing that, in a time when, if alteration in anything had been attempted it probably would have been destructive of precious characteristic features—a time wherein it was seriously contemplated to improve Magdalen by destroying its cloistered quadrangle—the library remained untouched. And so its great room with all its old oak fittings and its painted roof and its windowed recesses amidst folios of the giants of learning in the older days has still an unspeakable charm, and you feel as you enter that here you see represented the old and high ideal of the work of Oxford; that while college chapels tell of the religion of Oxford, and college halls witness to its social life, the library, in its isolation from street and noise and traffic, tells how the University is by learning and study to prepare its workers for the business of the outside world that awaits them. The whole quadrangle is now occupied by its stores; one after another the old schools have been absorbed, while their names have been wisely pre-

served over their doors of entrance. The ordinary Bodleian doorway is still labelled "Schola vetus Medicinæ", and that room called also the School of Anatomy, where Hearne used to exhibit miscellaneous curiosities, is now for the most part filled with Greek MSS. and editiones principes; the Law School, the Logic School, the Music School, and others still bear in golden letters their original names, no longer expressing their use. Long may this quadrangle remain unaltered! But enlargement in no stinted sense must come. Cellars and vaults, however suitable for novels and such ephemeral trash, are not fit storehouses for books of better use; and building, on a scale which the University in her poverty cannot of herself undertake, is imperatively needed. A wing connecting the Old Clarendon with the library, and filling the now vacant space opposite Hertford, would be a natural extension, and would, with the possible annexation of the Clarendon building itself, probably afford storage room for half a million of books.

For the permanent memorial of the Commemoration a fine illustrated volume is prepared for presentation to invited guests, containing a Life of Bodley and much other information. But the best enduring memorial would be a successor of Duke Humphrey and Sir Thomas Bodley, who, stirred by a sense of Oxford's need and the inestimable greatness of its library, would, in Bodley's words, conclude "to set up his staff" at the door of another wing, and link his name with the others in a grand triumvirate.

THE ARABS IN RHODESIA.

SOME day the Zimbabwe will have its Petrie or Arthur Evans, and the secrets of the ancient life of the people who reared these curious buildings all over the wide territory between the Zambesi and the Limpopo will be revealed as clearly, we hope, as the records of the First Dynasty at Abydos. Probably it will be found that conjecture was not far out when it identified the ancient builders of Rhodesia with colonists and miners from the old Hymyarite kingdom of Arabia; and though many links are wanting to prove the connexion, and scholars are by no means agreed to accept Dr. Glaser's chronology of the supposed "Minæan empire" dating from the age of Rameses, everything points to a long-continued influence of South Arabian traders on the east coast of Africa as far south as the Sabi river. When the whole matter is cleared up, which can be done only by systematic archæological excavation, a new and remarkable chapter in the history of early civilisation will be disclosed.

Rhodesia, however, has its mediæval as well as its prehistoric interest. The probable connexion of the ancient Arabs with the east coast of Africa which is only waiting for actual proof became a well-attested fact in the middle ages. There is not the slightest doubt that Mohammedan merchants were keenly alive to the value of the trade which was offered by the ports which indented the coast from Mombasa to Sofala near Beira. Brief references in most of the Arabic geographies and travels of the tenth to the fifteenth century establish the fact that Sofala was the recognised terminus of the Mohammedan traders sailing from the ports of Siraf, Hormuz, and Kalhat, in the Persian Gulf. Such coasting voyages were a trifle to seamen who were not afraid to shape a course straight across the Indian Ocean from Maskat to Calicut. They sailed to Sofala for gold, just as Professor Keane would have us believe that the ships of Tarshish sailed thither a thousand years before Christ to fetch the gold for Solomon's Temple from the very mines which are now the astonishment of the Rhodesian prospector. Masudi in the middle of the tenth century says that "the country of Sofala and Wakwak produces quantities of gold and other marvels", and Idrisi adds that abundance of gold was found throughout the region of Sofala, sometimes in nuggets of a pound's weight. All the mediæval Arabic geographers are at one on this point, and there is no question that the trade went on briskly. It has puzzled many people where the quantities of gold ornament and the abundant gold coinage of

mediaeval Egypt came from, but the connexion with the mines of Rhodesia explains it.

It is odd that the bold Mohammedan travellers, who shrank from no hardships or perils, and would have braved the rigours of the Boreæ finitimum latus if they had known how to build a "Fram", seem never to have visited Sofala. Merchants went there, but literary tourists like Idrisi or Ibn-Batuta never got so far south. They would journey from Fez to Tartary, to India, even to China; but South Africa did not attract them. The reason no doubt is that they were learned men and travelled in search of more learning, such as could be found in the Muslim colleges of Cairo, Damascus, Baghdad, Delhi, and Agra, in the Oriental Greek civilisation of Constantinople, and in the immemorial wisdom of China. Evidently there was no learning to be got in Rhodesia, "the country of Sofala and Wakwak", or Ibn-Batuta would have been there. As it was he got as far south as Mombasa and Magadaxo, and at the latter place, which was the Mohammedan metropolis of the East Coast of Africa, he was delighted to see many mosques and to find a Muslim ruler in the Sheykh Abubekr. Magadaxo, he says, carried on a considerable trade with Egypt. It was the most important but not the earliest settlement of Muslims in East Africa. A party of heretics of the Zeydiya sect had taken refuge somewhere near there in the eighth century, to escape persecution; these were followed by a second colony, of orthodox tenets, from the neighbourhood of Oman, who drove the unhappy Zeydis into the interior, where they disappeared, possibly by the natural process of mastication, for an old map describes the country where they vanished as occupied by "peuples anthropophages qui adorent leur roi." The new comers founded Magadaxo in the tenth century, and afterwards Brava, but we do not hear of their extending their dominions much to the south. So far the Arab settlements were still north of the Zambesi, though their trade was pushed as far south as Sofala, beyond Beira, in the modern Portuguese East Africa.

It was reserved for a third migration—this time from Hormuz in the Persian Gulf—to found a new kingdom at Kilwa, or Quiloa as the Portuguese spelt it, which spread north and south to Mombasa and Sofala, and became the leading Muslim State on the east coast from the eleventh to the fifteenth century. This was the State which Vasco da Gama and Almeida found in possession when the early Portuguese mariners rounded the Cape of Storms at the close of the fifteenth century. They entered the port of Sofala, and there laid hands on Arab dhows laden with gold, and found "Moorish" merchants employing the natives to work the mines, as their Arab predecessors had doubtless employed them for centuries, if not for thousands of years. All this continuous trade between Arabia, or at least Arabic speaking peoples, and Rhodesia implies a Mohammedan settlement which must have left its traces. It is one of the puzzles of the ancient remains at the Great Zimbabwe and elsewhere that hardly any burials have been discovered of the men who built and worked there. The few graves so far unearthed have been found in such exceptional positions that they would seem to be graves of chiefs. The mass of the population lie still concealed. It is the same with the Muslims. Of course the traders may have restricted themselves to the port, and may even have carried their dead home to Persia—for the rulers of Kilwa were Shiahhs of the Persian creed—as some do still in other parts. But such a custom can scarcely have been universal, and one would expect to find a Mohammedan cemetery at Sofala if not inland. So far but one Arabic inscription has been found in Rhodesia, and unfortunately, beyond the statement of its discoverer that he found it in what "seemed to be an ancient temple in Matabeleland", the precise provenance cannot be identified. The inscription, however, is on a tombstone or memorial tablet, and records the death of a certain Muslim, bearing the peculiar name of Salam ibn Salah, who is stated to have "forsaken this world for the Last Abode" in the ninety-fifth year of the Hegira, corresponding to A.D. 713-4. Professor Stanley Lane-Poole, who publishes the inscription with notes in the current volume of "Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy", judging by the character of the inscription, is of opinion

that it is not contemporary but rather a memorial epitaph set up by pious hands in later times. However this may be, it is the only document so far discovered in Rhodesia bearing witness to Mohammedan occupation, and it points to a date earlier than any known settlement of Arabs in East Africa. It is much to be hoped that further exploration may result in the discovery of more inscriptions. Surely an apparently continuous Muslim connexion lasting over nearly nine centuries cannot have left no traces beyond one tombstone. When the prior claims of the ancient ruins of Rhodesia have been duly satisfied by thorough excavation, the investigators will doubtless turn to the less sensational problems of mediaeval times, and we make no doubt that their researches will be rewarded by curious discoveries.

THE COCKNEYFICATION OF ROME.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has done a double disservice to art and letters by his production of the "Eternal City" at His Majesty's. He has lowered the reputation of his theatre, and he has confirmed the uneducated public in its estimate of a shallow and sensational novelist. Mr. Hall Caine has made his name, and, for aught I know, his fortune, by pandering to the most vicious taste that can beset a reading age, the appetite, namely, for the handling in print of subjects, which, either because of their sacredness or their nastiness, are best not handled at all. It would be perhaps prudish to blame Mr. Tree for arguing, as I suppose he did argue to himself, that vulgar rant is as likely to pay on the boards as on the bookstalls. To judge from the appearance of the house on Tuesday night, Mr. Tree will probably find his calculation correct, and a theatre, like a newspaper, is after all a commercial enterprise. Still there were some of us, a small section of the public no doubt, who had somehow got it into our heads that Mr. Tree meant to devote His Majesty's Theatre to something better, to the production of plays that were either indisputably classical, or whose classicality might be the subject of debate. I will not reopen the controversy about Mr. Stephen Phillips: he is at all events a refined writer, if occasionally a bore, and from him to Mr. Hall Caine is a very big drop. We were wrong, apparently, this small section of the public, in our conception of Mr. Tree's aims. We are entitled to express our disappointment, but not, as I said, to blame Mr. Tree for exploiting the foible of the hour. But what we and all the rest of the public are entitled to blame Mr. Tree for is his failure to correct, or at least tone down, the grosser faults of his author. To Mr. Hall Caine and the majority of his readers coarse improbability is not a vice: it is a virtue, an attraction. A Pope with a son who is a leading deputy, an aristocratic Prime Minister whose ward is his mistress, a working-man agitator who believes that the oratorical deputy is in love with his wife, and who, brought from his cell in chains, produces a dagger and stabs himself in court—these are the sort of characters and situations in which Mr. Hall Caine and his readers revel. But improbability strikes more upon the stage than in a novel: and surely Mr. Tree might have softened some of the more offensive impossibilities of the book. Surely we are entitled to demand of the actor-manager that he shall contrive some of that illusion of effect, without which a play is ridiculous. I do not think that I am less susceptible to stage effect than another: but not for one moment, from the first to the last act, did I imagine that the puppets before me were Italian men and women. The names, the scenery, and the uniforms were Italian; but the ideas and the language were those of Covent Garden. When a police agent tells his chief that "no portrait of the Honourable Rossi" (the h strongly sounded) "is known to exist", I felt that Mr. Hall Caine had "struck the connexion" between Bow Street and the Capitol in a manner that no one else could have achieved. The central character is the Baron Bonelli, a great Italian noble, (though the name doesn't sound aristocratic), who is also Prime Minister. For some reason Mr. Beerbohm Tree has given himself a "make-up" and a manner that are only

found in the Hebrew company-promoter of the shady type. I do not know enough of the relations between the Vatican and Quirinal to say whether an audience between the Pope and the Prime Minister is or is not a possibility. But I am quite certain that the Italian Premier, whether he were baron or bourgeois or even a peasant, would not interrupt the Holy Father in the middle of a sentence by pulling out his watch and saying that His Majesty the King was waiting for him. To do the Italian nation justice the manners of all classes are perfect. But if Mr. Beerbohm Tree will take up the Cockney Romans of Mr. Hall Caine, he must be content to appear as an insufferable cad. And then the Pope of Mr. Brandon Thomas! I have always had the strongest objection to the introduction of ministers of religion, from the curate upwards, upon the stage. The cleric is brought on either for the purpose of making him ridiculous, which is wrong, or for the purpose of making him utter certain sacred words or go through certain sacred forms, which is infinitely worse. I wonder how the British public would have taken it if the Archbishop of Canterbury were brought on in full canonicals, made to interfere in a police intrigue, and represented as discovering in a Parnell or an O'Brien the fruit of an early and unhappy passion! I doubt whether even Mr. Beerbohm Tree would have ventured on such an experiment. And yet the Pope is ten times as sacrosanct to the Roman community as the Archbishop of Canterbury is to the Anglican. Vulgar and impossible as is the Pope of Mr. Hall Caine, Mr. Brandon Thomas made matters worse by his acting. He might have been quiet and dignified: whereas he threatened, and cajoled, and by his manner of waving his hands showed that he does not even know how His Holiness gives his blessing. Miss Constance Collier is one of the cleverest of our younger actresses, and I sympathised sincerely with her situation as one of Mr. Hall Caine's heroines. But the sooner Miss Collier gives up imitating the methods and enunciation of Miss Lily Hanbury the sooner will she reach her own future. There is no interest in the absurd plot, because one knows from the first that the company-promoter will be got rid of somehow, and that the lovely Roma will end in the arms of the young agitator, well acted by Mr. Robert Taber, who has a good set of vocal chords. Mr. Hall Caine's epigrams and alliterations, from "evolution to revolution", from "reform to regicide" &c. were the more readily appreciated by the audience as they have already received the [meed of approval from several generations of readers and playgoers. Rome, "the slowly fading mistress of the world", has apparently the same fascination for the modern as the French Revolution. Both subjects hardly ever fail to attract: but both subjects require for their proper presentation a little scholarship and a little refinement. The author or actor, if he would escape contempt, must catch something of the genius of the time and place, which he can hardly do by trying on uniforms, or even by wintering at Ritz's hotel.

A. A. B.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH MUSIC-SCHOOLS.

WE have in London several large music-schools which are our pride and our glory; they are crowded with pupils who gain medals and diplomas; and the pupils go away when their musical education is "finished", and they are heard of no more. Or, at least, they are only heard of in one of two cases: either they go abroad to study and return really knowing something of their art, or they become teachers in the institutions where they themselves received their education. In the first case they are justly regarded with suspicion by the public and the press—especially the press; in the second they may promptly gain recognition not only as teachers of composition, singing, organ and piano playing and even of violin playing, but as fine composers. They are commissioned to write odes and cantatas for our great musical festivals; and having done this a few times they settle down in comfortable obscurity and live handsomely on their reputations. Or they are made examiners in all

manner of subjects of which they know nothing; they are sent to America or the Antipodes to draw fees from fools and to send home insulting letters about such men as know their work. In all our music-schools the one idea obtains: to learn enough to be able to teach or to examine. This tradition is handed on from generation to generation of students, with the result that the young men of genuine ability are discouraged, and that the others, spurred on by the noble example of their seniors, speedily develop into mere grocers.

Under our present system it could not well be otherwise. To begin with there is this example of the teachers; then there is the fact that any indications of originality are sternly repressed by the teachers and the inventive men ostracised if they persist in their villainous ways; and last there is the total lack of any artistic enthusiasm in the schools. The students go once a week for a lesson of twenty or twenty-five minutes; they are more or less kindly criticised by a yawning professor who is wishing to goodness the day was over; and after (say) three years of this routine, certain foolish and useless examinations being taken on the road, they are dismissed to earn their livelihood with no capital but a knowledge of the easiest means of passing those examinations and a fairly firm conviction that only by preparing younger people for those examinations will it be possible to earn their livelihood. The academics are our lords and masters, and if it cannot precisely be said that they have in the past killed off any mighty young geniuses, it is at least certain that they have done nothing to encourage anything but mediocrity.

An adequate system of teaching and a national opera-house are the two urgent needs of music to-day. Thanks to Messrs. Newman and Wood it is now possible for students to hear as often as they please, at very cheap rates, the great orchestral master-works; but opera they can only hear by paying dear and by submitting to much inconvenience and discomfort. I do not know what Mr. Manners made of his recent season, though I hope it was sufficiently successful to justify him in repeating the experiment if the Grand Opera Syndicate should happen to consider opera as of more importance than fancy-dress balls. An opera at reasonable prices nearly all the year round would be the best cure for all the ills that English music is heir to; for what student with any brains would consider for a moment the example of the nonsensical utterances of our Parrys, Stanfords and Mackenzies if he had before him the finer example of the greatest works of Wagner, Gluck, Weber and Mozart? But the most sanguine must recognise that a permanent opera is yet far off, that until the syndicate's power is broken we shall see nothing of the sort. The syndicate is a curse and a nuisance to music; and though the members of it may enjoy their little day they may depend on it that their names will be written in the blackest of black ink in the history of English music—if ever there should be occasion to write one. In the meantime the question is, Can nothing be done to amend our present ridiculous method of teaching?

Let us consider for a moment. We have the Royal College and Royal Academy, the Guildhall School and Trinity College. Anyone who knows anything of the inside workings of these industrial centres will not need to be told that the principal positions are gained not by musical power but by social influence. The Royal College was formerly the National Training School; and in some mysterious way which the late Sir John Stainer could never explain to me, he (Stainer), a musician, was got rid of and the late Sir George Grove, who was not in the least a musician, put in his place—or rather put at the head of the concern after it had been reorganised much as Artemus Ward wanted to reorganise Betsy Jane. Now Sir George Grove was an excellent man, in many ways a man of great ability; but I emphatically deny that he was the man to be principal of a huge teaching establishment at a time when musical London was half a century behind any other city in Europe. He was succeeded by Sir Hubert Parry, a musician of middling power and a great deal of social influence. The Royal College has turned out a few dullards who admire it and examine for it, and a few clever men who laugh at it. The

Royal Academy was for so long in the hands of the late Macfarren that it had sunk to the lowest depths when the management rejected the late Sir Joseph Barnby, who might have raised it, only to accept Sir Alexander Mackenzie who, so far as I have been able to judge, has done nothing for it. The head of Trinity College is Dr. Turpin, in his way a first-rate musician; but Trinity College has so much the air of a Board-school that one cannot hope for any good thing from it. Besides, examining, not teaching, seems to be its principal business. And, by the way, the same is even truer of the College of Organists, a concern which, started originally in the back parlour of a public-house as a limited liability company, afterwards managed to get a Royal Charter. It now examines people at a price, and the country may fairly be said to be flooded with its diplomas. Lastly there is the Guildhall School. The head is Mr. Cummings of whose musical talents I am sure not one of my readers knows anything. No more do I. One hears now and again that he was once a famous tenor singer; but if that is the case history has been unkind to him. He is, I believe, an enthusiastic collector of old music, musical books, and portraits of musical celebrities.

My object in describing these institutions and their heads is not to make personal attacks on estimable gentlemen who only want to gain social position and earn their daily bread. I have undertaken the task simply that I may ask my readers whether such institutions and such men are likely to raise a breed of serious artists. Never in the world! Academicism and commercialism prevail everywhere; enthusiasm for art is a thing deprecated, scorned.

Let us turn for a moment to France (in some later article I will deal with Berlin and Leipsic—for the moment I deal with what is under my eyes). The first thing that strikes one—it has struck me repeatedly for many years—is the immense amount of enthusiasm shown by professors and students. They work as neither students nor professors work in England. We English have got possessed of the notion that the French are an idle, pleasure-loving people. The truth is that they are one of the hardest-working peoples in Europe. In this quarter of Paris where I am staying teachers and pupils are in their studios before our Mr. Podsnaps have risen to shave close, breakfast and go to the City: they have done a day's work almost before the doors of our music-schools are opened. Whether it is music or painting the principal affair of the day is music or painting. They slave hard, passionately, during the day, and if they take their mild pleasures at night I see no reason why they should not. The pleasures of night usually consist of a glass of weak beer, a cigarette, and a fiery discussion on some æsthetic question. For their art is always uppermost in their minds. The learners starve for it. They live, if need be, in garrets; they eat when they have money to buy a meal; one thing is sure, that whatever else they miss they will not miss their lessons. The professors are men who have name and fame in various degrees; they can earn enough to keep them in comfort; and they devote hours a week to drudgery at rates of payment which would make our Academies laugh. And so there is created an artistic atmosphere which does not exist in England. The twenty-minutes lesson no more exists in France than it does in Germany. The industrious Parrys, Stanfords and Mackenzies, the judiciously silent Cummings, no more exist in France than they do in Germany. Men of their calibre would be rejected by students and the other professors alike. French music is far from being an object of my admiration, nor can I admire modern German music. Still, the young men in both countries are striving after something else than teaching connexions and posts as examiners: according to their lights they are striving to become artists, creators: neither they nor their teachers think it a beautiful thing to go on writing the same chords as their forefathers have written before them. They are eternally after the *new*; and to seek the new does not mean ostracism of any sort: on the contrary, it is the man who is newest who gains the biggest success.

J. F. R.

THE MARKET-PLACE.

ABOVE the far white moonlit walls
 Profound blue midnight space;
 Within them, glimmering market-stalls
 In the Arab market-place.

At random yellower lights that gleamed
 Like marsh-fires in a fen
 Showed amber where the brown earth teemed
 With huddled groups of men.

Each with his troop low-couched around
 The fitful centre's play;
 Beside their several heaps unbound
 The gathered merchants lay.

With different garb and rival schemes
 Each by his lantern dim,
 Half-shadowed from his neighbour, dreams
 What morrow dawns for him.

Dreams, but at peril if he sleep:
 Alert untrustful eyes
 With hand-grasp on the weapon keep
 To-morrow's merchandise.

The first glance in a page disclosed
 The wild East; then a task
 For Rembrandt; then around me posed
 The Nations in a masque.

WALTER HEADLAM.

NEW LIFE OFFICES.

FROM time to time the official life assurance returns give additions to the list of companies to which the Board of Trade have issued their warrant under the Life Assurance Companies Acts. Frequently these names are of little or no importance but occasionally they indicate some valuable new departure, or the advent to this country of offices which have been successful elsewhere.

In the latest Blue Book four new names appear. One is the Empire Guarantee, of which we know nothing; but the other three are of some interest. Nelson and Company, Limited, who in certain circumstances give annuities to purchasers of their tea, have become familiar through the action which was taken to compel them to register as a Life Assurance Company. Their accounts will be awaited with some interest: the Act provides that every company which grants annuities on human lives, and transacts any other business shall file with the Board of Trade statements of its revenue account and balance-sheet. It will be a distinct novelty to see the figures of a firm of tea merchants in the Life Assurance Blue Book, and it is to be hoped that the accounts will enable some judgment to be formed of the probability, or otherwise, of the permanent success of pensions in connexion with tea. The valuation returns of this company will be still more interesting, but presumably they will not appear until five years hence.

The Citizens' Life Assurance Company was founded in 1886, and has its head office in New South Wales. In the colonies it appears to have met with some measure of success, but how far it will be able to compete profitably with British Life offices remains to be seen. It is not obvious that the Citizens' is in a position to confer any benefits upon the assuring public which could not be equally well obtained from other companies.

In this respect the other addition to the official list stands out as a new departure of much importance.

The Profits and Income Insurance Company was founded in 1901, and its board of directors is for practical purposes one of the very strongest in the Kingdom. It consists of the managers of the Law Accident, the Legal and General, the Law Guarantee, and three other gentlemen, among whom is Mr. Bloxson, whose name is well known as a successful insurance manager. With the active support of the well-known offices which are represented on the board, and under the guidance of several insurance managers of proved ability, success is assured.

In such circumstances it is not surprising to find that the class of business which the company undertakes is not only different from anything hitherto transacted but is of a kind which will appeal strongly to everyone who believes in insurance. One branch of its business insures against loss of profit and fixed charges resulting from interruption of business due to fire, explosion, epidemic, or other accidental cause. The usual fire policy makes no provision for the loss of profit, for maintenance of the staff, interest on capital, and other results of the interruption of business consequent upon fire or other causes. The company does not transact ordinary fire insurance, but works in harmony with the principal fire offices in insuring risks which are beyond the scope of the usual policy. It is probably only necessary for the scheme to become well known for every business man to insure his profits as naturally as at the present time he insures his premises or his stock.

The Income Department is equally novel, and equally useful. The policies provide against the loss of income or salary by professional men or other workers, who rely upon their individual exertions for their incomes. The policies guarantee fixed weekly payments in the event of sickness or accident, and they also provide for the payment of a capital sum at death, or on attaining a given age, or for an annuity from disablement, from sickness or accident, until death. Some of these benefits are already obtainable, more or less adequately, in other offices, but the system of the Profits and Income is by far the most liberal and complete provision we have yet seen for guarding against the financial consequences of accident or illness.

The company has started with the essentials of success; it has abundant financial strength, and powerful support from existing offices of high standing; it has a directory of exceptional capacity and knowledge; and a plan of insurance which, although novel, is so obviously requisite and attractive that the only wonder is the system was not started before.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INTERCOMMUNION BETWEEN THE ANGLICAN AND ORTHODOX CHURCHES.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Belgrade, 8 September, 1902.

SIR,—A recent incident encourages the opinion I have often expressed: that those of us, who favour the spiritual and ceremonial aspect of religion as opposed to Protestant materialism, should turn our eyes to the Orthodox rather than to the Roman Church. As an influential ecclesiastic remarked here yesterday at the public meeting, which was called to protest against Croatian excesses in Agram, the whole history of Roman Catholicism has been one of intolerance and persecution, while the Orthodox have only asked to be allowed to worship God in their own way without molestation.

For a long time the Anglican and Orthodox Churches have been, more or less informally, in communion. Over forty years ago an English clergyman took part in Servian ceremonies and, I understand, was even permitted to receive the Holy Eucharist. The Archbishop of York was similarly welcomed in Russia and no doubt others of our compatriots have enjoyed a like hospitality. But it is one thing to admit strangers to your own mysteries; quite another to share the mysteries of strangers. Now, however, a fresh step has been taken towards perfect intercommunion.

The Anglican Bishops of Malta and Gibraltar inquired of the Patriarch at Constantinople whether members of the Orthodox Church might be permitted to communicate at Anglican altars in places where there were no services of their own. This fact met with sympathetic notice in a Belgrade journal and, happening to be with the Archbishop this afternoon, I ventured to ask his views on the subject. He replied that he had been consulted on the matter by the Patriarch and that the point was to be submitted to the Servian Synod, which he would certainly urge to return an affirmative answer. He summed up the situation by a simple analogy. All good Christians, said he, are trying to find the road to Heaven. Some travel more directly than others, and each chooses the conveyance most suitable to his temperament: the poor man plods wearily afoot, someone else proceeds quietly in a bullock-waggon, here is one in a carriage, there another (perhaps the Englishman) in a railway train. But all have the same goal, and all should try to help their fellows. He assured me that he reciprocated the sympathies which England had ever exhibited towards Servia, and that he would welcome nothing so much as an accord between the two Churches. Corporate reunion, he thought, was too much to expect, for neither could abandon the traditions of centuries, but that was no reason why we should not meet at our respective altars in a spirit of brotherly love.

This seems to me a very important pronouncement, and if it should find an echo among other autocephalous branches of the Orthodox Church, a great step will have been taken towards that reunion of Christendom, which all true believers must ardently desire.

HERBERT VIVIAN.

A CANADIAN FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London, 8 October, 1902.

SIR,—The establishment of a Canadian fast Atlantic service of steamers, of which so much has been heard lately, and from which so much was expected, is in great danger of falling through. It is rumoured from Montreal that outside influences will prove too strong for the Laurier Cabinet and that no subsidy will be forthcoming from the Dominion Government; without which of course the scheme must be abandoned. The whole matter is of such vital importance both to Great Britain and Canada that surely very strenuous efforts should be made to counteract these adverse influences.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

CELER ET AUDAX.

HIGHWAYS AND BYEWAYS IN YORKSHIRE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The Schools, 181 Aldersgate Street, E.C.
16 September, 1902.

SIR,—Some two years ago in a short notice of Mr. Norway's "Highways and Byeways of Yorkshire" your reviewer, in commenting upon the impossibility of doing adequate justice to the dales and dalesmen of that county upon a bicycle, mentioned a few places to which scant justice had been done in that otherwise interesting book.

I made a note of them at the time, resolving at the first opportunity to put his precepts into practice, with the result that I have to thank him for enabling me to spend a most enjoyable vacation.

Every place he mentioned in his review possesses a distinct beauty of its own, and I can best show my gratitude by assuring him that Mill Gill Force if approached from the bed of the stream will more than hold its own with Swinnergill, and surely that is praise enough to one who has seen the latter.

Yours truly,

T. M. THIRLEY.

THE ETIQUETTE OF QUOTATION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

61 Friends Road, East Croydon, 3 October, 1902.

SIR,—I am pleased to learn that a correspondent finds my letter "very interesting", and have to thank him for kindly pointing out what he considers to be an error. I am aware that, in taking up the position I do with regard to quotations, I become a mark to be shot at—serve me right if I make any mistakes of the kind I refer to—but even if in my championship of accuracy I get hit, and hurt, I shall not complain, so long as I achieve my object of calling attention to what is, after all, a very important matter.

I at least made no mistake in my quotation from Locke; I carefully verified it before writing. Nor am I yet ready to admit that I am altogether wrong in the title of the work referred to. I gave the name by which it is generally known, and, if Mr. Stacpoole had taken the trouble to verify the title of the essay, I think he would perhaps have hesitated before making his assertion. His letter has, however, led me to find some, let us call them, discrepancies even in an edition of the work itself.

In the table of contents of "Bohn's Libraries" edition of Locke's works I find—(1) "On the conduct of the understanding." (2) "An essay concerning human understanding." But in the text the former is called "Of the conduct", &c. My quotation was, however, taken from the "essay", which is called on the tops of the pages (in the text) "Of human understanding". Further, the editor (J. A. St. John) in his "preliminary discourse" refers more than once to the essay as "The Essay on the Human Understanding": I called it "Essay on the Human Understanding". In view of these facts I should be inclined, if Locke were alive, to ask him his opinion as to the exact title. (Did Mr. Stacpoole possibly think that I was really quoting from "On [or Of] the conduct of the understanding"?)

If Mr. Stacpoole had been a little more critical, he would have found in my letter a downright misquotation—not on my part, but on the part of the authority I consulted. But this only emphasises my argument. I had not the opportunity to verify it at the source, which I have since done, and find that my authority has misquoted it.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LATHAM.

P.S.—I am curious to know whether the above or similar discrepancies are in other editions of Locke's works.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Shrewsbury, 23 September, 1902.

SIR,—Mr. Latham's letter reminds me of a very misleading quotation which I have met with in my travels. Being then

"In th' inventive city whose honour'd name they own",

I purchased a box of "Shrewsbury cakes", on the label on which I read:

"She has given him a roll and a bun,
And a Shrewsbury cake
Of Pailin's own make.

["Oh Pailin! Prince of cake compounders! the mouth liquefies at thy very name—but there!"] See "Ingoldsby Legends"; which I did eventually; for a country friend with whom I had been spending the day incidentally asked me, when departing, if I would care to have the "Ingoldsby Legends" to read. I accepted the proffered loan, and, after returning to my quarters, I bethought me, after a while, that I would "verify" the said quotation. A diligent search through the volume revealed that it was taken from "A Legend of Shropshire", with the dreadful title of "Bloudie Jacke of Shrewsberrie", a portion of which I will transcribe. The "him" proves to be a ferocious brute of a

dog belonging to "Bloudie Jacke", and not, as I inferred, "She's" "young man".

"He seems of the breed
Of that 'Billy' indeed
Who used to kill rats for a bet,
—I forget
How many one morning he ate.

She expects to be torn limb from limb,
So grim
He looks at her—and she looks at him,
She has given him a bun and a roll,
Bloudie Jacke!

She has given him a roll and a bun,
And a Shrewsbury cake
Of Pailin's own make
Which she happened to take ere her run
She begun—
She'd been used to a luncheon at one."

Yours truly,
ONE WHO HAS NOT TASTED THE
CELEBRATED CAKE.

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY FOREIGNERS ON ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Your reviewer of the recently issued De Saussure Letters observes "... So far as we know, the only other first-hand account of England by a foreigner during the century is that by the German Moritz. . . ." As one specially interested in that century, allow me to draw attention to the "Voyage en Angleterre, en Écosse, et aux Îles Hébrides, par B. Faujas-Saint-Fond" published in French at Paris (1797), and far fuller and longer than anything else of the kind. It also contains a few fine and interesting illustrations.

Early in the succeeding century appeared the account of our life and country by M. Simond (like De Saussure, a Swiss), which is more familiar.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WALTER SICHEL.

GREEK VOTIVE OFFERINGS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Perse School, Cambridge, 6 October, 1902.

SIR,—Your Reviewer refers to "Ann. Brit. Sch. Ath.", vi. 103, 109, "J. H. S." xxi. 111. The first reference describes a decorative axe painted inter alia on a vase; my statement referred to axes of bronze. The second reference says nothing whatever of the date of the Dictæan axes; but on p. 115 I find: "Those offerings, of which we can be sure that they were placed there originally [i.e. in the Lower Grotto, where the axes were all found, p. 108] viz. the bronzes from the stalactite niches, seem to belong to the later and decaying period of the cave's history." The third reference merely states that "in the lower vault of the cave" were found "hundreds of votive bronzes, and among them a quantity of double axes declaring the special dedication to Cretan Zeus". Where is my mistake? I have said that the Dictæan axes are later than the Mycæan period, and that is what the explorers say. What the last quotation of your Reviewer means I am at a loss to understand. I have proved that the axe is dedicated to at least three gods, therefore it cannot "declare a dedication" to any one of them. Does your Reviewer imagine that the axes are inscribed? I can assure him they are not.

As to the origin of tithes, I quoted the opinions of one or two authorities on the original meaning of tithe and firstfruit, but expressly put aside any discussion (p. 41). My reference on p. 55, as the context shows, is to the origin of *θεῖον* in Greece, which word appears first after Homer.

I note with interest that your Reviewer no longer

calls the axe currency a "preposterous theory". That I will accept as a graceful concession.

Yours faithfully, W. H. D. ROUSE.

[Mr. Rouse should read his authorities more carefully. On p. 115 of the "Ann. Brit. Sch. Ath." to which he refers the explorer (not "explorers") states that the objects found in the Lower Dictæan Grotto are later than the Kamares period and "the acme of Mycænæan culture", not that they are post-Mycænæan. Or does Mr. Rouse not know the difference between the Kamares and the Mycænæan periods, or between the earlier and later stages of the latter period? On p. 109 Mr. Hogarth points out that the bronze axes he has found belong to the same type as those "seen on Mycænæan gems" and in a "Tiryns example".—ED. S. R.]

"THE KEY TO JANE EYRE."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—With regard to the Guide Book referred to by your correspondents most probably Charlotte Brontë who lived in the same part of Yorkshire was acquainted with it, but for the same reason it is most probable that she had heard the stories contained in it from other sources than the Guide Book.

Those who have read Dr. Wright's book on the Brontës in Ireland will be aware that he finds quite a different origin for the character of Heathcliffe—a certain Welsh Brontë who lived in Ireland and appears to have been a foundling but supplanted the real Brontës who were represented by Hugh the grandfather of the author. May I remark that Dr. Wright's narrative seems to render it inexplicable that Hugh should have given to one of his sons the name of Welsh—that Hugh's narrative of his own youth seems highly improbable, and that the facts are rather suggestive of Hugh being the foundling while Welsh was the real Brontë? If so the family talent was derived from an unknown origin—possibly like Father Prout from Swift and Stella.

Truly yours,

OBSERVER.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—It is deplorable that the vehemency which rules your correspondent Mr. Shorter should be responsible for his making a demonstration likely to detract from the interest or importance of his pronouncements on literary matters. "Assuming evidently that only" two copies of the book on Craven—the one in my possession and the one seen by him—are "now in existence" Mr. Shorter wilfully, and that with intent to deceive, misrepresents Mr. Montagu's work as being nothing but a sort of cross between a Baedeker and a Bradshaw. I need not deal with his fatuous remarks as to there being "no line or word in this little guide-book that could have been of the slightest use to the author of 'Jane Eyre' and her sisters even if they had read it", for my article on "The Key to Jane Eyre" counteracts Mr. Shorter's obliquity in this regard. Most pathetic it is to read what is tantamount to an ingenuous confession of his inability to discern "that 'Jane Eyre' and 'Wuthering Heights' and likewise in some particulars 'Shirley' and 'Villette' were to the world practically locked books" without Mr. Montagu's work. Nevertheless, I reiterate and reassert all the statements in my article.

Now to the "tourist's guide": Baedeker-like Mr. Montagu treats of subjects in his *Guide Book* (italics Mr. Shorter's) under the following headings:—

The Nightingale—On Physiognomists—On Death—A Funeral in London—A Cottage Scene—The Distant Bugle—The Soldier's Wife—On Separating Mother and Child—Independence of Thought—Strictures on Favouritism—On Ingratitude—Literary Ingratitude—Capture of a Shark—The Echo—The Faeries—"Times are not what they used to be"—A Night's Repose—The Married Poor—The Literary Pension List—Decline of the Drama—"Under the Rose"—The Miss Currer.

Take the *Guide Book* passage Mr. Montagu gives under the heading Cottage Scene:—

"How few of us connect with the word MOTHER the care—the anxiety—the extent of affection—the oftentimes vast depth of human suffering—the great call for resignation—and the rarely healthful contemplative calmness with which this sweet office is associated:—yet there are wickedly-advised men to be found (for no parent could be guilty of such unaided inhumanity—it is ever the work of some friend!!) who can take the child from the mother—the flower from its stem—and gloss this cruel act with the term duty:—supported unfortunately as they are at present . . . by the law of the land. Some there are, who will exultingly advance their legal dryisms in support of their doctrines, as to necessity, under every circumstance, of mother and child being wholly separated, and sum up by stating, that it would be 'dangerous' to alter the now-existing law. . . ."

Again:—"If I were called upon to define Gratitude, I should say that it is the dew-drop which at night reposes upon the lily's bosom, and at morning's dawn falls upon its root, so that the lily may prosper. . . ."

Or this under Literary Ingratitude:—

"Perhaps of all ingratitude the ingratitude of literary persons is the most hardened, because it is a determined prostitution of intellect, and does more injury to good feeling and society by one dip of a pen, than all the collected works, words, acts, or deeds of their lives ever do. We have lately read of a person of mediocre talents, who, having passed his petty censure upon his friend and countryman (whose lowest bred dog by the bye he was unworthy to unkennel) could sit down at his board drinking to his host's *prosperity and good health*, with all the meekness and self-complacency of Satan's most polished disciple. . . ."

Under Conclusion, Mr. Montagu begins in true *Guide Book* style:—

"I have now, my dear Howard, only to add a few words by way of taking leave of you. . . . If the epistolary has any advantage over any style, it is the ease it admits of conveyance of thoughts." [Of course this line could not "have been of the slightest importance to the author of 'Jane Eyre' and her sisters even if they had read it", and it is only mere coincidence, nay, it may be not even a coincidence, that "Jane Eyre", "Wuthering Heights" and "Agnes Grey" were written in the autobiographical style.] You will have perceived throughout this work my desire—by asking for redress—by recording incidents honourable to their hearts—and by endeavouring to generate sympathy—to alleviate the condition of the humbler classes of society: this desire to advocate, however humbly, yet most sincerely, the cause of the weaker portion of the community, originated in very youth, (and will, I trust, hie with me graveward,) from the example of a truly benevolent . . . Father—[Mr. Basil Montagu] one who has devoted his life to the amelioration of real, true, and established errors in legislation. . . . I have now come to the last plank of my little bark, which is shortly to sail in the fair tide of public opinion . . . and in fair weather or in foul, in sunshine or in rain, my vessel is now destined onward to sail. . . . Unlike Horace's *timidus navita* Mr. Montagu relied upon the aplustria—"Gleanings in Craven" "Tourist's Guide" &c.—of his little craft. Not less than a thousand copies of his work were to be printed, and of course he selected a "selling title".

And Mr. Shorter is interested in the titles of books. Was it Dr. Johnson who said he plucked the heart out of a book? Mr. Shorter takes the title and then with a facile, note-jotting pen *librum capitis* damnat. This reminds one that your correspondent annotated the "Haworth Edition" of Mrs. Gaskell's "Life of Charlotte Brontë". Hence these tears. Mr. Shorter is at least clerically associated with the Brontë literature; and that he does not mention in either the "Life of Charlotte Brontë" or in his "Charlotte Brontë and Her Circle", Miss Richardson Currer of Eshton Hall and Sir Ingram Clifford of olden memory is, it may be declared, simply the result of a clerical oversight.

J. MALHAM-DEMBLEBY.

[NOTE.—We have received a further letter from "Sadik" on Macedonian matters, which will appear next week.—ED. S. R.]

REVIEWS.

A CONVENTIONAL GEORGE ELIOT.

"English Men of Letters: George Eliot." By Leslie Stephen. London: Macmillan. 1902. 2s. net.

NO women writers were included in the earlier series of the English Men of Letters, but we may suppose from this biography and appreciation of George Eliot by Sir Leslie Stephen, and an announced volume on Jane Austen, that sex is not to be considered a bar to a woman being treated as a man for the purposes of literary criticism. Sir Leslie Stephen has acted on this principle quite literally in his treatment of George Eliot, for he finds in sex itself an explanation of most of George Eliot's limitations as well as the source of her particular qualities and excellences. It would not do of course to approach George Eliot on the assumption that her sex would ipso facto preclude her from taking rank amongst the greatest creative writers. But, the discovery being made of the fact that she cannot be so placed, the attempt to account for the elements in which she is deficient has naturally an attraction for the male critic. Sir Leslie sets out on this congenial quest with evident enjoyment and with assurance that in a woman's writing there will be sufficient material for induction. It is not very subtle criticism to detect the want of masculine fibre in George Eliot, though it was the belief of many thousands of uncritical persons when she was in her most ponderous period that masculinity was her chief distinction. The ordinary juxtaposition of Dickens and Thackeray comes in here inasmuch as Dickens had never any doubt that George Eliot was a woman, while Thackeray thought the new writer was a man. Sir Leslie Stephen's quite convincing demonstration that there is nothing in George Eliot's work which can excuse anybody for following Thackeray's opinion conveys the impression that it is not so much new as it is true, and that it would be absurd to hold such an opinion now, because everybody thinks mostly in the same way about everything relating to the literary character of George Eliot. The book is done with all Sir Leslie's well-known deftness in the writing of memoirs, but he is troubled by the consciousness that his criticism has already been forestalled by the multitude, and that there is very little more to say than the multitude already knows. It is certainly irksome to be criticising work which is not old enough to have passed out of the daily lists of the circulating libraries, and yet is not sufficiently new to be still of doubtful interpretation.

Sir Leslie is so conscious of this that he appears sometimes to be striving unduly hard to get out of the circle of established opinion. There are two characters especially that he finds fault with on the ground that they are not what George Eliot intended them to be and that they are therefore failures. These are Stephen Guest in "The Mill on the Floss" and Ladislaw in "Middlemarch". The former is the lover through whom the tragedy of Maggie Tulliver comes about: the latter is the lover whom Dorothea marries after the death of Casaubon. It can hardly be denied that these two characters are very unsatisfactory from the conventional novel-reader's point of view. The heroines are very superior to the heroes and "throw themselves away" on them. Very ingeniously and interestingly Sir Leslie Stephen traces their real unsuitability for the two women to the essentially feminine admiration of their author for a type of male character thin and showy, superficial and dandified. It is an indictment of feminine judgment in general, for why should the grave and philosophic George Eliot draw in all seriousness men whom other men would despise, if she did not share the incapacity equally with Ouida or any other woman? If she really did mean what Sir Leslie says she meant there is not much to be said for the boasted claim of women to be skilful discriminators of character. It has always seemed to us that the case is quite different, and that George Eliot did not mean to draw Guest and Ladislaw as suitable counterparts of Maggie and Dorothea. George Eliot was extremely old-maidish and she took an altogether desponding view of matrimony. Her mind was full of the preposterous

mésalliances that the shuffle of the matrimonial cards produces. Dorothea was a high-souled woman—George Eliot herself really—who made one mistake over Casaubon. Why should she not make a second over Ladislaw? Maggie, equally sentimental, nearly made a similar mistake over Philip Wakem. If she had married him she would have spent the rest of her life divided like Dorothea between her pity for her husband and her longing for a more sprightly consort. The two ladies really did, if they had known their own minds, hanker after the Stephen Guest and the Ladislaw type; and who shall say that men of this character were not far more suitable for them? Women who live at such high pressure as Dorothea and Maggie find themselves eventually not wholly unsympathetic with Rosamond Vincy.

There is really nothing inconsistent as Sir Leslie Stephen thinks in their admiration for men whom he does not admire. He says George Eliot thoroughly understood women. Why in these cases should she not have been understanding women instead of, as he will have it, misunderstanding men? George Eliot took a cynical view of matrimony, or why should she have married Adam Bede to Dinah after he had made a fool of himself, as she plainly intimates, over Hetty; or why should Lydgate have married Rosamond Vincy when Dorothea was living in the same village, and had only to wait till Casaubon was dead for a perfectly ideal marriage, as non-cynics understand it, to take place? Either as a philosopher, or as an elderly woman who was not married, George Eliot took a gloomy pleasure in throwing cold water over the holy estate. If she had begun to write five and twenty years later she would have been more physiological and less decent than she actually was, but the sentiment would have been the same. In almost everything else, except these views on several of George Eliot's most interesting characters, most readers will agree with Sir Leslie Stephen's appreciation of George Eliot as a writer. That her philosophy does not amount to so much as used to be thought, and the more she had of it the worse it was for her books, is a conclusion we are all prepared to accept. Everybody believes, with Sir Leslie Stephen that "Romola" and "Daniel Deronda" were failures in comparison with her earlier books; and what Sir Leslie thinks about them is what other less shrewd critics than himself also think. Regarded as criticism Sir Leslie Stephen's volume is not "illuminating" because there is not much in George Eliot's work that we now need illuminating about. As a memoir it is admirable and tells us just as much and no more than we care to know about her life. Perhaps the last sentence in the book indicates that the writer was saved from diffuseness by being a little wearied with his task. When he compares her work with that of other novelists he says he cannot doubt that she had powers of mind and a richness of emotional nature rarely equalled, or that her writings—whatever their shortcomings—"will have a corresponding value in the estimation of thoughtful readers". We suppose this means that writings possessing such qualities will be valued by thoughtful readers as highly as they deserve to be; but the sentence is not a good example of Sir Leslie Stephen's usual lucidity.

THE PROBLEM OF SIAM.

"Siam in the Twentieth Century." By J. G. D. Campbell. London: Edward Arnold. 1902.

THE author of this book is an official in our Education Department who was lent by our Government for two years to that of Siam to reorganise the education of that country. He thus enjoyed great opportunities of forming an impartial judgment on the present condition of Siam and its chances of political, social and commercial development; and the result of his observation is given in this volume which may be commended as an impartial study of existing conditions, even though the reader may not be prepared to agree altogether with the writer's deductions. The events of the week will have concentrated public attention on the Siamese problem to a degree that has not pre-

vailed since 1893 when we were believed to be perilously near to a war with France over the matter; but at present the tendency seems to be rather in the direction of giving France a free hand in those regions, if we may judge from the reception given to the agreement just signed. It seems to be assumed, rather hastily, that Siam is incapable of improvement in the manner of Japan. This assumption is somewhat premature for Siam is only at the beginning of her metamorphosis, as Mr. Campbell says "the movement from Status to Contract is only just commencing . . . the process of turning the retainer into a freeman who may work for hire, is now going on, and has been accelerated by European influences". Any such process must of necessity be slow, especially in the East, and the author rightly reminds us that "the East is not the West with a few centuries of leeway to make up. It is something totally different". The Japanese, it is true, progressed with marvellous rapidity when once they were set going but a small acquaintance with Japanese society has convinced many Western observers that in their heart of hearts the most enlightened Japanese have a sincere contempt for the European still. It is in any case dangerous to draw deductions from the Japanese to other Eastern nations. "The Japanese are bright, quick-witted, and persevering. The Siamese too are quick in their way, but they are apathetic and indolent to a degree. It is grit they are wanting in. To sum up the difference, the Siamese are a tropical people, while the Japanese are not, and here we are at the root of the matter." This judgment does not hold out much hope for the self-reformation of Siam and that country has an additional disadvantage. She stands now between three great Empires, two of which have already almost come to blows on her account, while China is daily pouring her surplus population across the border and Mr. Campbell is of opinion that before many years the Chinese are likely to be the dominating people, not only of Siam, but of Indo-China. However that may be, it is evident that France has made up her mind to be the ruling factor in Siam, or if not, that no other Power shall occupy that position. The question is can we delay the absorption of Siam until she has so modernised her institutions and organised her resources that there will be no valid excuse for foreign interference with her internal affairs?

Mr. Campbell admits that the King is an enlightened monarch and that his son is likely to prove even more so. There are other men of great intelligence among the governing classes, such as Prince Damrong, who is Minister of the Interior and has "brought his office to a state of something like European efficiency", and the Prince Rabi, an Oxford graduate, who is Minister of Justice, perhaps the most invidious post under an Oriental despotism. Yet this gentleman has infused Western ideas into his department and has established a legal school to train native jurists. At present the indolence of the Siamese leaves the practice of the law entirely to foreigners. The prison system too has been reformed and attempts are being made to organise a general system of education. That corruption undoubtedly prevails widely in Government departments is certainly deplorable but analogies might be found further West. That Siam can produce two or three remarkable men in a generation Mr. Campbell admits to be undoubted. She has always been able to do so, but the difficulty is to infuse the rest of their class with their spirit and that can only be done if an earnest desire for improvement can be aroused. At present levity and indolence unfortunately are the distinguishing qualities of a people with many charming characteristics. They are cheerful, kindly, and affectionate parents, but that would make us doubly grieved to see them absorbed by a Power with little capacity for colonisation and little sympathy with subject-races. The possession of agreeable qualities, however, will not avert the stroke if the time should be ripe for it. In one point there is a strange resemblance between French and Siamese. "The Siamese parent, in any position above the lowest class, has his eye on a Government office for his son and nothing beyond." Substitute "French" for "Siamese" and this statement is equally true. Mr. Campbell passes severe strictures on the Siamese for not rightly appreciating the true aim of

education. Here he speaks rather as the educational expert than as the tolerant man of the world. What proportion of English citizens hold right views on this matter? A vast proportion look only to passing examinations as the result of education. And if our parents are unenlightened can we wonder at it when we find cultured and as a rule fair-minded writers urging that if the interests of national education and party success clash the former must give way!

Many of the worst failings of the Siamese are common to mankind. To eradicate the more serious is probably possible by a long course of good government steadily pursued. Events at present hardly allow us to hope that the time necessary for this slow development will be given them. The best service we can render to Siam is to impress upon her the necessity of averting by every means in her power any excuse for foreign interference. Beyond that at present we are hardly prepared to go.

TAINÉ IN HIS EARLY DAYS.

"Life and Letters of Hippolyte Taine." 1828-1852.

Translated from the French by Mrs. R. L. Devonshire. London: Constable. 1902. 7s. 6d. net.

THIS is a book of extraordinary interest, for all who are fascinated by the revelation of character. Of incident it has little enough. The picture presented is that of the development of a great intellect. Not a little of its charm consists in what it does not contain. The entire absence of vulgar, or merely worldly, aims and desires, the exposition of a plan of life drawn up from the first on a level far above the ordinary designs of aspiring mankind, and a plan adhered to throughout life, bring the reader under an influence which at once soothes and stimulates. Taine throughout his life loathed self-advertisement and personal tittle-tattle: therefore we find in these pages the fewest intimate details consistent with intelligibility. On the other hand every letter which may enable us to trace his mental and moral growth, the obstacles it encountered or the influences which swayed it, is given in full.

Hippolyte Taine was born in 1828 at Vouziers in the Ardennes. He lost his father early and owed the best instruction he obtained to M. Hatzfeldt a young professor at the Lycée Bourbon. He spent three years of most fruitful study at the Ecole Normale, where his companions were Challemlacour, the future Cardinal Perraud, Edmond About, Prévost-Paradol, Francisque Sarcey, and many others almost as brilliant. Up to his entry at the Ecole Normale the most striking document we have is a kind of intellectual confession in the form of an introduction to a treatise on "Human Destiny": this is a sketch of his own mental evolution from the age of fifteen to that of twenty. In it he traces his alienation from the Christian faith, the opening of a destructive campaign in his mind against all creeds, the final revolt against the absence of any kind of faith and his adoption of "the newest and most poetical opinion" Pantheism. This was the commencement of what M. Brunetière has lately called "a romance of intellectual adventure in search of truth". Whether or no the seeker, had he lived longer, would ultimately have come back to his earliest belief may form an interesting subject for speculation, but it is enough to note the extraordinary fidelity with which he adhered to his earliest programme of study "never pausing, never considering that I know everything and ever examining my principles anew". By the practice of this intellectual honesty he became the greatest of modern critics; and his criticism was a system of morality which, applied to history, has given us one of the most remarkable of studies and shown once for all the French Revolution and its protagonists in the true light.

The majority of the letters in this volume are addressed to Prévost-Paradol, especially during the earlier time. This intimacy was in after years severed in consequence of Paradol's political action, but nothing is presented in history more curious than the careers of these two distinguished students both endowed, but so differently, with talents far above the average; the

one, brilliant and superficial, deserted philosophy for journalism and became one of the foremost opponents of the Second Empire; then, in an evil moment for his own reputation and peace of mind, accepted an important post from that Government only a few months before its collapse. But even before that catastrophe arrived the unhappy Paradol had put an end to his life, unable to endure the false position in which he found himself. Taine, on the other hand, holding aloof from faction and quietly pursuing the line he had marked out for himself, seeking neither honours nor fame, secured recognition as the most distinguished philosophic writer of modern France, and became, almost in spite of himself, a political force of well-nigh incalculable influence; for in his "Origines" he has sapped the very foundations of the political theories which have brought, and are still bringing, confusion upon his country. Taine himself seems as it were to have had a premonition of the gulf for which his friend was heading. Writing to him on 18 April, 1849, he says: "Unless you destroy yourself you will ever feel contempt for the coarse tribunes with whom you wish to ally yourself, you will feel within yourself doubt concerning opinions founded on mere probabilities such as those you describe. . . . To become a simple machine in the service of a personal passion or an alien opinion, lose Freedom in fact, for the only Freedom is that of the mind, that would no longer be Life; I would sooner be dead. When I think of what you are, I see everything in you save the power of will". The remarkable point about these sentences is not so much the accuracy of the delineation they contain of the mental degradation and the self-immolation demanded by an active career whether as partisan politician or partisan writer, as the calm judgment and mental balance possessed by a man of twenty-one enabling him to gauge thus accurately the characters of his friend and himself and to forecast their future. We find the same calm and even judgment in his letters to his sisters, whether he is advising them as to the choice of a career or as to their conduct in the society into which they are thrown.

The danger of originality should always be impressed upon candidates for examination, though it is a warning rarely required. In Taine's case this peril was curiously exemplified. After three years at the Ecole Normale, where his companions recognised him as the most brilliant as well as the most solid intellect of the band, he went up for his "Agrégation"; and his friends and teachers alike believed that he would head the list of budding professors which that test year by year supplies to the Faculties as well as the Lycées of France. To the astonishment of everyone he failed to pass. At the examination he fully came up to the expectations of his friends, but the model lecture which he had to deliver before the examiners was the true cause of failure: it probably was above the comprehension of some: at all events it frightened them all and made them think that he was too dangerous a teacher to occupy a high place in the professorial circle. The rising generation were thus deprived, at the time of life when such influence would be the most fruitful, of the instruction of Taine, whose energies were directed into a lower channel and devoted, so far as teaching was concerned, to drilling youths in platitudes. After the Coup d'Etat he was regarded with great suspicion by M. Fortoul, the Minister of Public Education. When he was appointed Assistant to the Rhetoric Chair at Poitiers his lectures were subject to the strictest supervision. Rhetoric was chosen as a "branch of study less perilous" for his future. The absurdity and injustice of the conduct of the officials are made clear when we remember that Taine, on principle, took no part in politics. Directly Napoleon III. was the chosen of the State he was ready to render him obedience, though he liked his methods and his men as little as those of his Socialist opponents. But he never rendered homage to a government which came into existence in a manner he reprobated. His reasons—which will be found set forth on page 65 of this book—for not recording his vote are expounded with philosophic calm and are stated with the nicety of a mathematical proposition: they would hardly appeal to a government official. We

cannot wonder after reading them that Taine was not a favoured candidate for government appointments. As a matter of fact, when he did obtain them, he was suspected and was not allowed to rise high. After spending less than a year in minor posts, quite unworthy of him, at Nevers and Poitiers he was transferred to a still less exalted position at Besançon. Then he determined to take the step he had long been contemplating. He asked for a long leave of absence and transplanted himself to Paris, where after a time he secured enough private teaching to live, and devoted himself to his own particular lines of study in libraries and at lectures. He received his doctor's degree by an essay on La Fontaine, his first printed work, which drew from Béranger the remark that he "did not know a thesis could be so diverting". Once settled in Paris Taine was evidently more at his ease than he had been in the provinces, even though he rarely went into society, not from lack of sociability so much as from a hatred of wasting time. He seems to have been conscious that he was living in a more congenial atmosphere, but sometimes he must have found it hard enough to exist. Yet his letters give evidence of the same sweetness of disposition as they do throughout. He loved music, and with a piano "a cup of coffee and a small medical or philosophical discovery" could be contented if not happy. But happiness was not what he sought for in life: truth from the first was the one object of his pursuit, and throughout these letters we have one consistent image of a great mind striving in that direction alone. This is one quality that shines conspicuously throughout the correspondence. In spite of his own apparent failures the writer always welcomes with sincere delight the early triumphs of his school contemporaries, and his letters to his mother and sisters indicate clearly enough the depth of his feelings towards his family.

Altogether the picture given here is one of the most pleasing self-revelations which we have ever had the good fortune to dwell upon. Those who have revered Taine as the critic or philosopher, or who have admired while he destroyed with merciless analysis the spurious reputation of some revolutionary hero, will find their respect for the man in his maturity immeasurably enhanced by the story of his self-denying life in youth, a life devoted to high purposes, as indeed it was to the end. We must add a word in praise of the translator who has done her work well, and we hope that a further instalment of a most fascinating correspondence will appear before long.

PAPAL DUMMIES.

"The Lives of the Popes in the Early Middle Ages." By H. K. Mann. Vol. I., Parts 1 and 2. London: Kegan Paul. 1902. 24s. net.

THE Papacy, touching as it does at every period all the interests and concerns of mankind, demands above all other historic subjects a comprehensive and exact knowledge in him who would venture upon it. If Bishop Stubbs was right in teaching that the secular history of the Christian centuries cannot be understood apart from their ecclesiastical affairs, the converse is obviously still more true. The great dogmatic controversies which began in the fourth century are unintelligible except in the light of the national and political movements of the time; the early persecutions need to be explained by the criminal procedure of the Roman Courts, of which their treatment of the Christians was but one exemplification. So with the Papacy; depth of knowledge and breadth of survey are equally needful. Even Creighton, whose knowledge is above suspicion, injured his work by narrowing its scope. Treating his subject too much as a political study, and paying an insufficient regard to the less palpable forces which were at work during his period, he has hardly brought out in their true proportions the causes of the Reformation. Lord Acton, with his encyclopædic knowledge, might have accomplished the task of tracing the progress of the Papacy from its beginnings, and his candour would have enabled the reader to make allowance for his point of view. Nothing, in fact, that he has written has been so valuable as his contribu-

tions, direct and indirect, to this history, and no statement of the principles on which it should be written could be more admirable than that contained in his inaugural address at Cambridge in 1895. He insists that historical thinking is even more important than historical learning, and that candour and independence of judgment are essential to the historian.

It would have been well if Mr. Mann, the head of a Roman Catholic grammar school at Newcastle-on-Tyne, had pondered the advice and example of Lord Acton before he ventured upon what he apparently wishes us to regard as a "full, systematic and authoritative" *Life of the Popes*. He has read diligently, and in the best editions, the biographies of those with whom he deals, from Gregory the Great to Hadrian I., and he has a large acquaintance with the literature which directly concerns them, with the important exception of that in German, a language of which he is evidently ignorant. But here his qualification ends. He knows nothing of the period in which his Popes lived, and nothing of the thoughts which then possessed men's minds; he knows nothing of the methods by which historians reach their conclusions, and his criticism, which ventures at times to dispute with a Duchesne or a Bury, is mere eclecticism at second hand, choosing from prejudice between alternatives he is incapable of weighing. And his whole work is dominated by the assumption that Popes of the sixth and following centuries lived up to claims promulgated in 1870, and that they were always, or almost always, in the right. The result is a curious travesty of history. Mr. Mann's facts and dates may be correct, but when his dummies, constructed after the pattern of Pius IX., show signs of life they usually fall to perpetrating anachronisms. He is, in fact, an Ultramontane of the most thoughtless kind, and like many of his school he expresses his opinions about his adversaries or those of his heroes in terms not less positive nor more polite than those employed by the public schoolboys of twenty years ago concerning Mr. Gladstone. It is a minor fault that he is an indifferent, though sedulous, scholar—there are pages in his book which we trust, in the interests of discipline, will not fall under the eyes of his sixth form—and an unpractised writer, as is shown especially by the artless manner in which notes of exclamation are scattered over his pages, as a substitute for eloquence, and even for argument.

As an historian Mr. Mann may be disregarded, but his book is significant as an indication of the range of ideas within which the less intelligent members of his Church are confined. Biography is carefully expurgated. Gregory the Great, for instance, one of the grandest figures of any age, was a saint and an administrator of the highest merit. Of this, rightly enough, the most is made. But each generation has its own models of piety and business, and Gregory's characteristic cannot be sought here. It lies in his extraordinary superstition, which renders his writings, like those of his namesake of Tours, invaluable to the student of folklore. He has been accused of puerile credulity, and of deliberately deceiving the multitude in the interests of the Church. Neither accusation is just. He was the typical man of his age, and superstition was a phase through which the mind of Europe had to pass. Much of his influence was due to his sharing fully, and expressing better than others, the universal feeling; just as Innocent III., the Swift of his century, governed the imagination of his age by giving expression to the current loathing for humanity. All this is toned down by Mr. Mann, and the great Pope's lineaments flattened into conventional propriety. He might be a benevolent despot of the eighteenth century.

But we are treated to an expurgated edition of history as well. It seems inconceivable that in 1902 any writer should venture to repeat the depreciation of the Eastern Empire and its services to Christendom, which is the one great blot upon Gibbon's fame as an historian. But the faded sarcasms are reproduced in contented ignorance. Constantinople, politically and ecclesiastically, is always in the wrong. The Mohammedan conquests in the East were a providential check, designed to save Rome from rivalry. And Mr. Mann is so ill advised as to indulge in the sneer that every educated man knows the name of the Pope, and

does not know that of the Patriarch of Constantinople. It is pointless except on the assumption that the two are on a parity. It has some point if both be equally fallible, as each believed when he expressed his horror at the presumptuous claims of the other. But Mr. Mann fails to see that the comparative obscurity of the Patriarch of New Rome is the most impressive way in which the East could protest against the system which hoists an individual to an eminence for which, whether or no it be a legitimate development of Christianity, many of its occupants have been notoriously unfit. His chief interests, however, are political. The growth of papal influence and territory is what excites his enthusiasm. It was inevitable, in the disordered state of Italy at the beginning of the Middle Ages, that secular power should thrust itself upon the Popes, and that the defence and increase of it should become one of their chief concerns. One obstacle in their way was the Eastern Empire; we have seen how Mr. Mann treats this. The other and greater was the Lombard Kingdom. As lawgivers and enforcers of peace, as warriors and builders the kings who reigned at Pavia may rank with those who reigned at Winchester; the crown of Monza, round which so much of Italian tradition gathers, is a Lombard crown. But they too inevitably aimed at extending their influence, and the very merits of the best of them rendered them the more formidable. The Popes combated them by alliances—from Phocas to Napoleon III. their allies have often brought them discredit—and by a copious stream of vituperation. The Latin language has always lent itself to exaggeration, especially in invective, and probably no one who has turned it to that use, from Cicero to Pio Nono, should be taken quite literally. But Mr. Mann refuses to read between the lines, and takes this pamphleteering as a serious statement of fact. When the Franks succeeded in conquering the Lombards, the struggles for liberty of the latter, as honourable as the attempts of Spaniards or Tyrolese against Napoleon, are branded as conspiracies and intrigues. The reason is that the Franks were friends to the Popes, and that from them the Papal territory was obtained. Political authority had been honourably won; their actual domain was acquired by very undignified means. Pope Hadrian I. was the most importunate, unscrupulous and successful mendicant known to history. But this is presented to us as an achievement of the greatest moment, and the maintenance of what he gained as a primary concern. Italian unity, therefore, is treated with scorn, and Catholic France—in other words the present Republic—is hailed with lyrical enthusiasm. Mr. Mann would be quite content for the Papal States to be once more an outpost of France to the South, as the Archbishopric of Cologne was an outpost of France to the East in the eighteenth century, and is blind to the fact that the one is as unlikely to be revived as the other. This political prepossession, quite as much as dark points in history and disputable doctrines, renders it difficult for those outside the Roman Communion to take it at its own estimation. Its aims have often been high and its action beneficent, great truths of religion have been safe in its keeping. But if we survey its record as a whole, it is difficult to find in it more evidence of the supernatural than in the duller and more decorous annals of Constantinople and Canterbury. And though Mr. Mann's period is one of those in which the Papacy appears at its best, his perverted history and shallow comments will go far to alienate sympathies which might have been won by a candid and philosophical narrative.

THE INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES.

"A Treatise on the Construction and Effect of Statute Law." By Henry Hardcastle. Third Edition, by W. F. Craies. London: Stevens and Haynes. 1901. 28s.

THE third edition of Mr. Hardcastle's exhaustive treatise has been, as the second was, greatly enriched by the learning and diligence of Mr. Craies. Like many lengthy works on legal subjects it is sometimes too full for the use of students, whose wants are better met by the readable and interesting work of Mr. Beal

on the Cardinal Rules of Legal Interpretation. For the practising lawyer, however, it is a work of great utility, worthy of a place beside the well-known treatises of Maxwell on Statutes and Elphinstone on the Interpretation of Deeds, the recent work of Underhill and Strahan on the Interpretation of Wills and Settlements, or the classical treatise by Mr. Vaughan Hawkins on the Construction of Wills.

The office of interpreting the written language of the Legislature may well tax all the resources of the most ingenious and accomplished mind. Common-sense goes some way; but grasp of logic, insight into legal principles and legal relations, an imagination trained and disciplined in business and other affairs, and no small power of literary expression, are in turn called into exercise. Nothing is easier than to state in general terms the principal rules of legal interpretation. The words of a statute must, if possible, be construed so as to give a sensible meaning to them; words are to be construed in their ordinary and literal sense, unless that would lead to some absurdity, or some repugnance or inconsistency with the rest of the statute; technical words must have their technical meaning given to them, unless the contrary manifestly appears; and so on. The reiteration of such rules becomes tiresome. We propose to illustrate the real difficulty of the subject by some concrete examples.

The Ground Game Act was passed in 1880 for the purpose of securing to every occupier of land the inalienable right to kill and take ground game. Section 3 of the Act provides that "Every agreement, condition, or arrangement which purports to divest or alienate the right of the occupier as declared, given, and reserved to him by this Act, or which gives to such occupier any advantage in consideration of his forbearing to exercise such right, or imposes upon him any disadvantage in consequence of his exercising such right, shall be void". In a recent case, a landlord promised his tenant that if he would leave the ground game unshot and undisturbed the landlord would compensate the tenant for all damage done to his crops by ground game. Relying on this promise, the tenant refrained from exercising his right under the Act, and then sued his landlord for compensation. The divisional Court decided that the agreement was void, and that the tenant could not recover. Mr. Justice Darling casually observing that "the friends of the tenant in 1880 seemed to have taken too good care of him". Mr. Craies cites this decision twice, and seems to treat it as good law. Some lawyers, however, are of opinion that the decision is wrong, and that the language of the section is intended to protect the occupier from an action for breach of his agreement by destroying the legal consideration for his promise, but is studiously and with severe accuracy limited to this purpose. Let the student of law ponder the question whether the Court or the Legislature blundered. It would be interesting to see how the section is understood by the Courts in Scotland, where the English doctrine of consideration does not prevail.

A still more striking example is presented by one of the most familiar provisions of the Judicature Act 1873. By section 25, subsection 6, it is provided that "any absolute assignment by writing under the hand of the assignor (not purporting to be by way of charge only)" shall entitle the assignee to sue in his own name. Two views are possible of the meaning of these words. What may be called the orthodox or dominant view may be thus expressed: "The language at first sight seems peculiar if not awkward. Absolute is opposed to conditional. An assignment of a debt until the repayment of certain advances is a conditional assignment, and therefore not within the section. A mortgage in the ordinary form is not a conditional conveyance and is within the section; a proviso for redemption and reconveyance does not prevent an assignment from being absolute, or make it purport to be by way of charge only. An assignment which passes the whole debt 'by way of security' is an absolute assignment within the section; but an assignment which is intended to pass only so much of the debt as will provide security will be construed as a charge only. If an assignment is absolute, but by way of security, equity would imply a right to a reassignment on redemption, and the assign-

ment is within the section." This is the view of the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a great number of cases to which Mr. Craies refers without comment.

The other view, which receives scanty support, is as follows: "The subsection is one of a number of provisions dealing in a highly technical manner with one of the most technical of problems, viz. :-the assimilation or fusion of the law and practice in the Courts of Common Law and Equity. The presumption, therefore, is that every term of art contained in it has some peculiar meaning recognised either by the Courts of Common Law or by the Court of Chancery. Now, at common law the term 'absolute' had no meaning except as contradistinguished from the term 'conditional'. Therefore, a conditional assignment is not within the section. Therefore, an assignment made 'by way of security' is not within the section; for 'security' is a technical term denoting a common law condition, as anyone may see by consulting the older conveyancing books under the title 'Defeasance'. For the same reason, an ordinary mortgage, or an assignment followed by a proviso for redemption, is not within the section; proviso being a technical term expressing a condition, as the older Digests treat the whole subject of mortgages under the heading 'Estate upon Condition'. So much for the Common Law. But an assignment which was absolute at law might in certain circumstances be treated by the Court of Chancery as a 'Charge in Equity', and the words in brackets were inserted to exclude such an assignment from the section. So highly technical is the language that if you alter the word 'charge' into 'security' you make the enactment absurd; 'security' was a legal, 'charge' an equitable term. And if you strike out the words 'purporting to be' and substitute the word 'made', the whole scope of the enactment would be changed; for a Court would then have to go outside the document and let in evidence of the real nature of the transaction." Lord Selborne, who supervised the passing of the Act, could tell us, if he were alive, what he intended by the enactment; but what general rules of construction can assist anyone in conjecturing which of these views would be adopted by the House of Lords?

A late remarkable instance of judicial construction is the decision of the Appeal Committee of the House of Lords that in Workmen's Compensation cases no appeal will lie from the Court of Session to the House of Lords, although an appeal is competent from the Court of Appeal in England or Ireland. The grounds of the decision are not reported, but it is understood to be based on section 14 of the second schedule to the Act, which provides that the decision of the sheriff on any question of law "may be submitted to either division of the Court of Session, who may hear and determine the same finally, and remit to the sheriff with instruction as to the judgment to be pronounced". Nothing corresponding to these words occurs in the provisions relating to procedure in England and Ireland, where the words are simply that the decision of the County Court judge shall be final "unless either party appeals to the Court of Appeal". Now, it is an anomaly that under a new statute there should be an appeal to the House of Lords in England and Ireland, but none in Scotland. And we venture to think that any competent draftsman who wished to create this anomaly would have used very clear and express language for the purpose, and not left it to be implied from the words we have quoted. When this can be said, it is the duty of a Court to seek diligently for some other meaning of the actual words, and we incline to think that such another meaning can be found. In England, as in Ireland, there is but one Court of Appeal. In Scotland there are two concurrent divisions, and the appellant is allowed to choose between them. But the party who is defeated in one division cannot afterwards resort to the other. This, we think, gives a satisfactory and sufficient meaning to the words. True, in an Act relating to Scotland alone the words would not be necessary, and this probably accounts for the general acquiescence of Scottish lawyers in the decision. But, in view of the different conditions, it was not unnatural that the Legislature should think right to express them

in an Act regulating procedure in the three kingdoms; and it is a rule of construction that the expression of words which would otherwise be implied shall have no effect on the interpretation of an instrument. Mr. Craies, who is always chary of expressing his own opinion, does not refer to this question, although it was mooted almost immediately after the passing of the Act. Perhaps he is right; yet we cannot help thinking that in the present state of the law there is great need for vigilant and competent legal criticism.

NOVELS.

"The Sheep-Stealers." By Violet Jacob. London: Heinemann. 1902. 6s.

If the "Sheep-Stealers" is a first novel, Miss Jacob should go far. She has that invaluable but indefinable gift of "creating an atmosphere", and she can handle unusual characters and events without exaggeration. The scene of her story is in the borderland of South Wales, the time that of the once famous "Rebecca Riots", and, so far as we know, this is fresh ground for novelists. The merit of the book lies very largely in its close sympathy with and comprehension of rural life: its obvious defect is a want of unity in the story. The initial hero, an adventurous young farmer rather above his station, sinks to some extent into the background, and the drama finally centres round the woman he has wronged and her humbler but worthier lover. There is a very spirited scene of riot, but the sheep-stealing is hastily passed over, and Miss Jacob has little to add to the chronicles of crime. The minor characters are one and all excellent, be they gentle or simple, honest or rascally. Minor characters often are the best in books of this kind, just as in reality five minutes' conversation with some rustic "character" leaves on a traveller's mind a more vivid impress than constant association with more important persons.

"Told to the Marines: Stories." By Sir W. Laird Clowes Kt. London: Treherne. 1902. 6s.

It is quite clear that Sir W. Laird Clowes Kt. has not been knighted for his prowess as a writer of stories—or shall we say that, if he has, he does unwisely in publishing the present volume? There is a certain species of story which must be labelled "story" because it is not true, but which has absolutely nothing to do with what Sir Walter Besant used to call "the art of fiction". To this class belong the contents of "Told to the Marines". Some of the pieces would be tolerable in paper read between two stations on the two-penny tube, but they are quite astray within the covers of a so-called book. There is nothing in the least objectionable in them, but they are merely recitals in undistinguished English of incidents hardly worth recounting. Each incident is presented in the shape of a surprise which the reader detects at the outset. There is no attempt to study character or to work out a genuine plot. "They are plain tales and nothing more", says the author, but herein he deceives himself. They are coloured anecdotes, without any particular originality or point, and where there is humour it is meagre. They have no connexion with the Marines, and we do not believe that that much-maligned corps would listen to them.

"In Royal Colours." By Nat Gould. London: Everett. 1902. 2s.

"Persimmon! Persimmon!" The word rolled in thunders over hill and dale, a right royal shout. "Persimmon! Persimmon!" That was the beginning of it, for it moved Edward Castleton to say "I would give a few years of my life for the chance of a ride in Royal Colours". The chance comes, of course, and is made use of in the fashion to which heroes of this style of fiction have accustomed us. Racing, romance, and finance all contribute to the medley through which Ted Castleton rides triumphant. The good are very good, the shady very shady in Mr. Nat Gould's sporting stories, of which this is a fairly representative specimen;

thoroughly to enjoy it the reader should have strong sporting proclivities and no taste for literature.

"The Princess Inez." By Reginald St. Barbe. London: Elliot Stock. 1902. 6s.

This book is well written, and keeps the reader's interest to the end, but it is hardly pleasant reading—and one is a little tired of the "avenger of blood" in fiction. It follows the usual run of such stories—there is a general clearance of the stage in the last chapters. But the story is the least interesting part of Mr. St. Barbe's book: the descriptions of scenery, the atmosphere of lawlessness which prevails in the hills, the life of the gitanos, the scenes of carnival, the machinations of a wily cardinal, and the vivid reproduction of everyday Spanish life, help to form a most attractive work.

NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"The Wessex of Romance." By Wilkinson Sherren. London: Chapman and Hall. 1902. 6s.

Mr. Sherren, more candid than most unauthorised chroniclers of the lives and work of living writers, hastes to assure us in his introduction that his pages have been written "without the slightest co-operation or fore-knowledge on the part of Mr. Hardy". For such potential readers of Mr. Sherren's book as know Mr. Hardy, or know about him, this information was scarcely needful. Men of genius who happen to be gentlemen are not in the habit of inspiring eulogies of themselves and their work. There is a good deal that has interested us in Mr. Sherren's book, once past his introductory chapter, though a certain sense of scrappiness pervades such contributions as "Illuminative Surnames" and "The Wessex People: their Character", whilst the synopsis of the novel is dry stuff. Mr. Sherren could really scarcely hope to "polish off" in some forty short pages the character, customs, superstitions and folklore of the district he would make us familiar with. He says however some things worth saying about such places as Egdon Heath which Mr. Hardy himself has told of wonderfully in his direct tale, and we thank him for the bibliography, slight though it necessarily be. Between "Far from the Madding Crowd" and "The Return of the Native", it is curious to note, came "The Hand of Ethelberta", which might perhaps be called a brilliant society novel, being a work that somehow makes us think of what a greatly glorified Miss Braddon, say, might be like. It was not one of Mr. Hardy's masterpieces, and we do not see there is any necessity for it to live a long life. But compare it with the bunkum that the libraries circulate to-day, and then it shines out quite a great work. We hope by the way that Mr. Hardy has taken, or will take, the precaution of burning the MS. of the first story he submitted to a publisher, but chose to withdraw upon the advice of a friend; otherwise it is sure to be seized upon one day, when the author has no longer a voice in the matter, and printed by some idoliser.

"Medieval Towns": "Verona." By Alethea Wiel. London: Dent. 1902. 4s. 6d. net.

In the "Story of Verona", the latest addition to Messrs. Dent's Medieval Towns Series, Mrs. Wiel has diligently gathered together and intelligently arranged as much as the passing traveller or the general reader need know about the famous and beautiful city on the banks of the Adige. But if the matter is good and abundant, the manner leaves much to be desired: there are oddities of phrasing and slips in grammar which point to a writer of foreign origin. As for instance on page 159 she tells us that the Biblioteca Capitolare contains "some *unedited* poems of Dante". We call attention to this Gallicism on account of the great importance of the statement in which it occurs. Can Mrs. Wiel really mean that at this time of day there are any known poems of Dante as yet unpublished? Then why has she not made haste to publish them? Why miss the golden opportunity of printing them in the present work? But we rather suspect that she must be referring to a well-known codex in the Capitular Library, at the end of which are a variety of sonnets by Trecentisti, some of which have been attributed to Dante, but all of which have (we believe) been published. The "Story of Verona" contains numerous illustrations by Miss Erichsen and Miss Helen James in the style which they have made familiar in other volumes of this useful series. We much regret to learn that an artistic partnership which has given delight to many has been dissolved by the death of Miss James.

"Books and Printing." By Charles T. Jacobi. London: Whittingham. 1902. 6s. net.

As this is a new and enlarged edition, we may take it that Mr. Jacobi's first effort supplied what is popularly known as "a want". The volume will serve to inform those who elect to

write as to various typographical mysteries, the way to prepare manuscript, correct proofs, and select paper. As a practical printer, Mr. Jacobi fortunately spares us the absurdity of attempts to instruct the tiro in style of essay or fiction writing and the best methods of becoming literary generally. His volume is, in a word, a practical guide to matters which everyone who writes for the press would be the better for knowing.

"The Black Police of Queensland." By Edward B. Kennedy. London: Murray. 1902. 10s. 6d. net.

This book should be read in company with Mrs. Campbell Praed's *Reminiscences of her Australian Girlhood*. The two together convey an excellent idea of Queensland forty years ago. Mr. Kennedy's adventures with the Black Police of Queensland are interesting in their way, though there is nothing very novel about them. The pluck of the early settler is illustrated by such incidents as Blake's going alone into the midst of a corroboree, and bringing howling cattle-stealers to book. Incidentally Mr. Kennedy makes some reflections on the South African war which are suggestive. The Black Police were excellent scouts and he gives an idea from his intimate knowledge of their habits of the manner in which if they had been sent to discover Boers, they would have disappeared down a river and with an instinct for self-concealment have found out with perfect safety what was happening. The black policeman was in fact a Jacko Jacko employed by the colonists to track down murderers and cattle-lifters and proved that to set a black to catch a black is as effectual as to set a thief to catch a thief.

GERMAN LITERATURE.

Weltpolitisches: Beiträge und Studien zur modernen Kolonialbewegung. Von Dr. Alfred Zimmermann. Berlin: Allgemeiner Verein für Deutsche Literatur. 1901. M. 5.

This is an important and interesting volume concerning almost every colonial problem which engrosses the world's practical attention: and, since Great Britain is the great colonising power, it deals mainly with her claims and exigencies beyond the seas. Every province of such responsibilities as beset her is here discussed; and we are able not only to "see ourselves as others see us", but also to trace the history of facts now considered natural and inevitable; and to conjecture from the main currents of the past how the tide is likely to flow in the future.

"The English Chartered Companies", "The Phases of English Colonial Politics", "Cecil Rhodes", "The Downfall of the Boer Free States", "The United States of Australia", "The Later Famines in India", "The Struggles for the Newfoundland Fisheries", "Land Concessions in West Africa", "The Apportionment of the Dark Continent", "The Downfall of the Spanish Colonial Empire and its Significance for World-Politics", "Pan-Americanism", "The Monroe Doctrine", "Abyssinian Missions", "Russia and Abyssinia, Russia and India", "The Growth of Russia's Relations with China", and "German Commercial Interests in China" all figure in the volume; and in each case the subject is pursued with an almost bald conciseness, but with abundant evidences of thoroughness and research. Two of these essays seem to us especially enlightening—those on the Newfoundland Fisheries and on the Monroe Doctrine.

In the former the theme is traced with great historical minuteness. It may be new for most readers to learn that these fisheries earned their earliest prosperity through the dried fish consumption of Roman Catholic Europe; and that even after the English Reformation Queen Elizabeth protected them by an edict that every household should eat fish twice a week. The actual struggle with France lasted in its acute phases from the opening of the eighteenth century to the beginning of the twentieth. The great Utrecht compact handed the ownership of the island with the town and the dismantled French fortresses of Placentia to Great Britain. The "Most Christian King" was by it forced to renounce for ever any property in the island, and to restrict his subjects fishing on its coasts, to such buildings only as might serve for huts in which the fish was dried. The French fishing rights both of catching and of drying were limited to the spaces between Cape Bonavista and the northern point of the island, and thence between the western shore and Point Riche on the south. Cape Breton Island alone was reluctantly accorded to France; but this by the first treaty of Paris in 1763, which expressly re-enacted the Utrecht clause, was restored to Great Britain, while the small islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon were accorded as mere refuges to the French fishermen who were once more forbidden to erect any permanent buildings. At this period the fisheries brought in over a million sterling and employed over 5,000 people. But the English colonists were never satisfied with the French intruders, although in the flush of Canadian and Indian triumphs, the home government disregarded their cavils and con-

tinued to make small occasional concessions, of which the Versailles treaty twenty years later forms a signal instance. The Utrecht treaty had with rare foresight provided England with the substance and vantage-ground of dominion, and France with the mere shadow in a wisely delimited sphere. It was the perpetual and eventual success of Great Britain in the conflict for that colonial supremacy which the Utrecht treaty seemed to predict and prepare for, that continually in the future made the home government slack and remiss in their requirements even in the many compacts which expressly reinforced the Utrecht clause. The second treaty of Paris in 1814 proved a crowning example. It put France in the "statu quo" of 1792. Thenceforward she arrogated a monopoly within her sphere which the Utrecht treaty had never even contemplated. The indignation of the English colonists—all along seeking pretexts of quarrel over the "bait" question—grew furious, and menaced a rupture with England. The lax home compact of 1846 was the result; and ten years later another recognition of an exchanged monopoly caused another uprising. The Bait Act of 1886 thirty years later denied France the cod fishery anywhere "without licence". Fresh confusion ensued, till in 1890 a provisional and annual arrangement regulative of French rights in Newfoundland waters was concluded. Such is a brief summary of the question which all along symbolised the British struggle against the Gallic pretensions. We have not heard the last of it; nor is it wholly improbable that America may one day complicate the difficulty. In the second essay the author treats comprehensively and exactly that "doctrine"

(Continued on page 468.)

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which has now become a dogma of American patriotism; although Monroe's defiance of Europe must always, as President Roosevelt lately hinted, imply the armed power to support it. It is in fact merely a formula of "Hands off, Europe!" and "America for the North Americans". But Dr. Zimmermann shows that this figment, supposed to form a superstructure on the American constitution, was originally provoked and almost manufactured by England. In 1823 Canning, the supporter of free institutions abroad for British interests abroad, profited by the violent movements in the Spanish colonies of Southern and Central America, to score a move on the European chessboard. The Holy Alliance group meditated an intervention to their profit. Canning, despite his pro-Spanish sympathies, resolved to forestall them and to "redress the balance of the old world." He approached Mr. Rush the American envoy and proposed a policy of "Hands off, Europe!" tempered by a desire for a reconciliation of the acknowledged independence of the rebel colonies with their mother country. President Monroe adroitly utilised this clever move by one still cleverer. He propounded the "doctrine" which has so frequently hampered England. Canning was incensed but powerless. Like Frankenstein he had himself created the devouring monster.

The essay on "Chartered Companies" proves with fulness and insight that they are usually inadequate for their purpose and prelude absorption by the governments of the monarchs who grant them. That on "Cecil Rhodes" emphasising the failure of the Congo affair as main reason for the "Raid" is a fair if hypercritical appreciation. The one handling the "Phases of British Colonial Politics" is very interesting from its significant trade statistics.

Individualitäten. Von Malwida von Meysenburg. Berlin und Leipzig: Schuster und Loeffler. 1901. M. 3.

The author is one who sojourned in our midst after the agitated upheavals of 1848. She has known most men of extremes in most countries. She is a social idealist, but not in the strict sense a socialist. Humanitarian perfectibility through self-sacrificing individualism seems her eclectic faith, optimism her hope, and cosmopolitanism her charity. She is very clever, rather learned and inordinately chatty. Nevertheless (or shall we say "therefore"?) these portraits of "Individualities"—both men and matters—are fraught with considerable personal and general interest. First and foremost stands the picture of Nietzsche in his prime, ardent and aspiring, witty and sympathetic, before the disease which had already begun and made him a wanderer in Italy and Switzerland, had fastened on him or led to the hollow and imperious pessimism which was its sequel, until in the fatal end he "withered at the top". His correspondence with Fräulein Meysenburg is fresh, normal and brilliant; his converse with the Wagners who introduced him to her, most interesting. Suddenly the shadow falls, and all is defiance and saturnine despair. It is curious that Nietzsche's last phase should have led him to a new development of that "recall to Nature" which, in the domain of sentimentality, formed the catchword of Rousseau. With Nietzsche it proved a recall very different though equally artificial. For him it meant the apotheosis of a primitive beast. No "recall to Nature" however can ever be real because the social history of civilised man is as much a part of his nature—nay, more so—than his original instincts.

An essay on "Women" is also interesting, though its length approaches to that of a book. Almost every famous lady is sketched from the beginnings of history, and some of them are comparatively unfamiliar.

So ist Das Leben. Schauspiel in fünf Akten. Von Frank Wedekind. München: Albert Langen. Verlag für Literatur und Kunst. 1902. M. 2.

The subject of this strange play is more or less original and striking. It deals with an old Perugian chronicle. A usurper—Pietro Folchi—banishes the lawful king with his daughter Alma, and declares himself monarch of Umbria. By a strange series of vicissitudes the banished king eventually becomes court-fool to the usurper, reveals himself as the true sovereign, is disbelieved despite his daughter's assurances, dies, and is buried in the royal vault. Alma marries the sham king's son who has loved her while she was still acclaimed princess. So far, so good. But when we come to the scheme of the drama we are puzzled and repelled. Though the theme is essentially tragic and poetic the characters speak in the language of a modern newspaper; there is no coherence either of scene or sentiment; the incidents are as disconnected as those of "Alice in Wonderland" with little fancy and no humour to redeem them. The banished king, who is doomed to death but disdains to seek the asylum of a neighbouring State, rambles all over his own, uttering short, jerky platitudes to his daughter who has dressed herself in male attire. The daughter is luckily a good listener, but when she does open her lips, she too becomes inexpressibly wearisome. There seems no particular reason for the particular sequence of any of the snappy sentences that compose their conversation; and when they are at a loss for words they repeat the obvious in a medley of refrains. The king becomes servant to a tailor and patient and Pecksniffian to the verge of idiocy. From this degrada-

tion he is rescued by being tried and condemned for cursing the king (by which he really meant his former self!), and, absurdly enough, his daughter (a sort of infant phenomenon) is acting actuary in the very court which once more sentences him to imprisonment and exile. The sentence itself our altruist monarch relishes extremely, inviting, and, to our mind, almost excusing, the brutalities of his gaoler whom he thinks he is humanising. He objects to being the prey of outward circumstance, and deprecates being liberated at all; nor does he care for the occasional scraps brought him by the daughter, whom he always addresses as his "jewel". Somehow or other—it is not very clear how—he and the daughter, in a sort of witches'-Sabbath-scene at midnight round a gallows, are engaged by the manager of a strolling company which discourses in a sort of mock-Faust ironical jargon which doubtless the author understood when he wrote it. They go to Perugia and act before the King Pietro. The dethroned monarch is thus taken on as court-jester, behaves like an imbecile in hysterics, and ends by protesting his identity before the incredulous court. Here however a really fine passage occurs which, had it been artistically precluded and harmoniously interwoven, might have reclaimed the chaos of its beginnings.

The *Deutsche Rundschau* for September comprises an enlightening paper derived from original documents on the unfamiliar episode of Marie Louise's relations to Napoleon and his cause immediately before and after Elba by August Fournier; and an extremely interesting article on the obstacles attending the production of Molière's "Tartuffe", and their manifest influence on his succeeding plays, by Hermann Suchier.

Deutschland: Monatschrift für die gesamte Kultur makes its début this October. It is edited by the Graf von Hoensbroech, whose able work on the Papacy was reviewed by us in these columns last year. "Complete independence" is its motto, although it makes a speciality of "Cultivation versus Ultramontanism". It will also deal specially with social problems. It leads off with an essay by Herr Otto Pfeleiderer on "The limits of State-influence over the domain of Religion". The editor contributes another on "Ultramontanism and Social Democracy". Dr. Edward Hartmann writes a "personal" paper on his own philosophy. There are articles too on Geibel the poet, crime and punishment, the opera, and Protestant art; besides a review of things and shows. The new venture promises well. It is published by Schwetschke of Berlin.

For This Week's Books see page 470.

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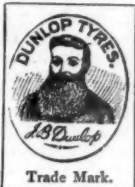
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LANGLAAGTE DEEP, LIMITED.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders of the above Company was held in the Board Room, Exploration Buildings, Johannesburg, on the 2nd September, 1902, Mr. L. Meyersbach being in the chair.

The Chairman, in moving that the Company's Articles of Association be amended as provided in the notice issued to Shareholders, said:—

The business before them was to consider the advisability of creating 50,000 new shares of £1 each, thus increasing the capital of the Company from £750,000 to £800,000. He continued:—

"As you are aware, the formation of the Company took place in September, 1895, the nominal capital being then fixed at £750,000, out of which £600,000, in shares of £1 each, were allotted to Vendors as the purchase price of the ground of your Company, 50,000 shares of £1 each were underwritten at £3 per share by the Rand Mines, Limited, thus producing £150,000 in cash, and the remaining 100,000 shares were held in reserve, it being the intention at the time to issue these reserve shares whenever a favourable opportunity might present itself, in order to provide the necessary funds for effectually equipping and developing your property. Unfortunately, through circumstances which were entirely beyond the control of your Directors, no such opportunity offered itself until quite recently, and all the necessary funds to carry on and complete the equipment and to bring the Company to the producing stage were advanced by the Rand Mines, Limited, at a charge of 7 per cent. for interest, which rate was reduced by that Corporation to 5½ per cent. for the war period, this Company thereby saving an amount of £17,800. As was intimated at the time when the last Interim Report was issued, covering the period ending 31st December, 1901, the total liability to the Rand Mines, Limited, at that date was £624,600. On the 25th June last, your Directors decided to avail themselves of an offer made by the Rand Mines, Ltd., to the effect that that Company undertook to guarantee the issue of the whole of the 100,000 Reserve shares of your Company at £4 per share, subject only to the condition that the issue should first be offered to Shareholders in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed. With the sum realised by this issue, viz., £400,000, your Company is still left in debt to the extent of approximately £250,000, and it is in order to place your Board in a position, so soon as a favourable opportunity offers, to repay this amount that your authority is now being asked for the creation of the 50,000 new shares." He then proceeded to explain the position:—

As foreshadowed in the last Interim Report, a portion of the stamps were dropped on the 6th January, 1902. From that date to the 31st July last, 76,477 tons were hoisted from the mine and 2,736 tons were taken from surface stock; a total of 79,213 tons were sorted out as waste rock, and 66,021 tons were sent to the Mill, and allowing for the ore already in the mill bins, 66,531 tons were crushed; the total yield amounted to 318. 11'993d. per ton, and the working expenses amounted to 24s. 5'219d. per ton—thus showing a profit of 7s. 6'773d. per ton, equal to £25,163 11s. 4d. At that date the Ore Reserves stood at 762,317 tons, and the opening up of the mine confirms the confidence in the future expressed to you in October, 1899. The interest charges amounted to £72,635 os. 5d. from the closing down of the mine in October, 1899, to the recommencement of milling, and to £25,163 11s. 4d. from that date to the 31st July, 1902. The working results as shown by the figures quoted are satisfactory, and with economical working under more normal conditions, I hope that the cost per ton will be slightly decreased, and the profit proportionately increased. The plant is in every respect fully up to date and in good order and efficiency, and so soon as the Company is able to liquidate the balance of its debt to the Rand Mines, Ltd., a dividend becomes a matter of reasonable calculation. Under these circumstances, I feel confident that Shareholders will share my view that the increase of capital you are now asked to authorise is in the best interests of the Company, and offers a sound and reasonable method of ultimately freeing the Company from debt.

Mr. W. Adye seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. D. C. Greig proposed:—"That the Directors be authorised to cause Supplementary Articles, recording the alterations approved and authorised by the Meeting, to be prepared, executed and registered as by law required, and to do any other act, matter or thing necessary to carry such alterations into effect." Mr. W. Fisher seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated.

BONANZA, LIMITED.

From the MANAGER'S REPORT for AUGUST, 1902.

WORKING EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

On a basis of 8,140 Tons Milled.

	Cost.	Cost per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Mining	5,533 2 5	0 13 7'138
Crushing and Sorting	560 0 11	0 1 4'313
Milling	1,722 12 7	0 4 2'790
Cyaniding Sands	1,184 9 1	0 2 10'922
" Slimes	499 8 1	0 1 2'725
Sundry Head Office Expenses	639 18 11	0 1 6'868
	10,139 12 0	1 4 10'956
Development Redemption	814 0 0	0 2 0'000
	10,953 12 0	1 6 10'956
Profit	20,130 7 3	2 9 5'523
	£31,083 19 3	£3 16 4'479

	Value.	Value per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By GOLD ACCOUNT:		
Mill Gold	18,490 18 3	2 5 5'186
Cyanide Gold	12,593 1 0	1 10 1'293
	£31,083 19 3	£3 16 4'479

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure under this head for the month amounts to £1,176 os. 7d.

GOLD ex. MINT.

In addition to the above Revenue, a further sum of £1,776 8s. 2d. has been received on account of Gold ex. Mint. This represents the Bonanza *pro rata* share of the amount recovered by the Robinson Gold Mining Company Limited, in respect of Gold forwarded to the Mint from the Robinson Refinery during the Boer régime.

ROBINSON GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.
JOHANNESBURG, TRANSVAAL.

From the Directors' Monthly Report, August, 1902.

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

110 Stamps Crushed 13,498 tons.

	Cost per ton Milled.
	£ s. d.
Mining Account (including Maintenance)	7,550 6 5
Milling Account (including Maintenance)	2,090 8 11
Vanning Account (including Maintenance)	318 1 6
Cyaniding and Chlorination Accounts (including Maintenance)	2,161 5 3
General Maintenance Account	43 15 8
General Charges	1,159 1 3
Gold Realisation Account	520 0 0
	13,886 19 0
Development	1,413 0 10
Machining, Plant and Buildings	105 12 6
	15,405 12 4
Profit on Working	25,059 12 1
	£40,465 4 5

REVENUE.

	Value per ton Milled.
	£ s. d.
Gold Accounts—	
From Mill	26,661 4 2
" Tailings	8,961 14 4
" Own Concentrates	4,216 10 1
	39,839 8 7
Sundry Revenue—	
Re-estimate of Interest on Cash on hand and	
Profits on Purchased Concentrates	625 15 10
	£40,465 4 5

The value of the Gold produced is shown at £4,247'727 per oz. Fine Gold, and the cost of realisation appears under the heading of "Expenditure."

No provision has been made in the above Account for the payment of the 10 per cent. Gold Tax.

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